

How they brought the snow to Stockholm: When film director Michael Apted decided to recreate Moscow in Sweden for the screen version of the best-selling novel *Gorky Park*, he did not expect to face the problem of a lack of snow. One way out of the difficulty was to cover parts of Stockholm in Epsom Salts. On the Spectrum page on Monday, Chris Moser reveals what happened.

The subject of *The Times* Profile is Lord Harewood, a many-sided man who looks back with nostalgia to the Swinging Sixties and says: "I find it very odd that now we're all back in pinstriped suits."

UK exports at record £5.28 billion

Britain had a trade surplus of £376m in March with exports rising to a record £2.8 billion. The March surplus, which comes after deficits of £138m in February and £491m in January, was greeted by Lord Cockfield, the Trade Secretary, as confirmation of the Confederation of British Industry's optimistic forecasts.

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Fanfani hands in resignation

The Italian Government resigned last night and Signor Amintore Fanfani, the Prime Minister, handed his resignation to President Pertini. Today, the President will begin talks with political parties but a general election looks likely in June. *Earlier story, page 5*

Kohl puzzled

Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany described as "incomprehensible" the cancellation of a visit to Bonn by the East German leader, Herr Erich Honecker. Relations between the two countries have deteriorated recently.

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Brixton 'errors'

Mr Geoffrey Dear, Assistant Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police, said that police officers committed "gross errors" in raids in Brixton Road, Brixton, in 1981. *Page 2*

Peer fined

Lord Mountbatten was fined a total of £1,000 by magistrates at Skipton, North Yorkshire, for firing a shotgun at a hot air balloon during a grouse shoot.

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Parkinson role

Michael Parkinson has been appointed to the board of TV-am, subject to IBA approval, and been given an extra role suggesting programme ideas.

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Contempt claim

A newspaper cartoon was criticised for alleged contempt after a captain in the Intelligence Corps was sentenced to be dismissed the service for being drunk in charge of a patrol.

Page 3

Pension advice

An advisory service is to be launched for the 12 million people in private pension plans, linked to the Citizens' Advice Bureau. It should start operating in a couple of months. *Family money, page 13*

Race sponsors

On the eve of the 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket, the Stewards of the Jockey Club announced that they are to allow sponsorship of classic races. *Page 17*

Saturday

In Saturday today, and inside view of the British grand prix chess circuit and the build-up to the world championships. Also included in the arts and leisure section published each week with *The Times*, are regular features on travel, gardening, eating out, drink, records and news of the coming week's events in the arts.

Leader page 7
Letters On: CND, from Mr E.P. Thompson, and Mr N. Walter; telephone and blind, from Mr E.J. Venn; child thefts, from Mr J.F. Rutter.
Leading articles: CND debate; civil courts and criminal law; Mr Heath's right of passage. *Features, page 6*

Two views on subsidized agriculture; Levin on Brendon; the new chill between the two Germanies. *Obituary, page 8*

Lord Redmayne

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Buenos Aires junta says 'disappeared' are all dead

From Andrew Thompson, Montevideo

Argentina's military government yesterday issued its final document on the war against subversion and terrorism. It declared that the "disappeared" people should be considered legally dead, and signalled official protection for members of the security forces involved in "excesses" during the counter-insurgency campaign.

The announcements, on nationwide television and radio, were preceded and followed by protest from human rights groups and political parties. Most observers believe the attempt to close the issue of human rights violations in the 1970s will fail, and that the subject will inevitably end up in the hands of the new civilian Congress due to meet next year, after the elections planned for October 30.

The 7,000-word document, yesterday said that between 1969 and 1979 the guerrilla organizations carried out 21,642 terrorist acts, and that at their height they had 25,000 members, of which approximately 15,000 were combatants. The role of the security forces in the repression was declared "acts of service".

The Government admitted the security forces "committed errors which, as in all wars, may have gone beyond the limits set by fundamental human rights, but which remain subject to the judgment of God in each individual conscience and the understanding of men."

It must be absolutely clear that those people on the list of the disappeared, and who are not in exile or in hiding, must be considered dead, for all legal and administrative purposes." The statement added that the Government was unable to define the time and cause of death.

Human rights groups had demanded publication of a full list of the "disappeared", who are estimated to number 15,000.

BUENOS AIRES: Sénor Jorge Bernasconi, master of a ship, scheduled to try to take relatives of Argentine war dead to the Falkland Islands, said he will turn back "at the slightest opposition" from British forces. The Lago Lacu is from Buenos Aires today.

Man has urge to kill, court told

From Our Correspondent, Liverpool

A man accused of murdering his five-year-old nephew as the boy lay asleep with his mother has an irresistible urge to kill people, a court in Liverpool was told yesterday.

Ronald Waldron, aged 37, of Compton Way, Anfield, Liverpool, has admitted to the police that he has had the killer instinct for many years, the court was told.

He had told them: "I get the madness, the killing instinct. I just cannot help myself. With the drink and the speed on top I just cannot control myself."

He added: "She did not, however, lose consciousness and the dreadful thing that happened was that she heard Andrew Wake and then realized that her assailant had shifted his attack to the little boy. She lay there unable to do anything and heard Andrew repeatedly hit with a blunt instrument."

Mr Crebbin told the court that while Mrs Waldron lay in bed, fighting death, she was attacked again. She was unable to identify the man because of the severity of the attack and her limited eyesight, but Mr Waldron later confessed at length to the police.

Mr Crebbin said that Mr Waldron allegedly told the police that before the attack he had been drinking and sniffing glue and had taken a drug. He had spent money he should not have spent and had a row with his wife.

He said he had wanted to kill his wife but that thought to one side and decided to kill his sister-in-law. He told police that he had an irresistible urge to kill if he was to kill anyone," Mr Crebbin said.

"Inquiries will revolve round

Washington 'cake' loses chunk of icing

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Capital building (right) which dominates the Washington skyline like an ornate wedding cake, is falling apart. And, being at the centre of the city's political life, the building's crumbling facade has immediately become the source of a political dispute.

On Wednesday night, shortly after President Reagan had finished delivering his Central American address to a joint session of Congress, a 16ft section of the historic West Front of the building crumbled to the ground.

The collapse was in a section of the Capitol that was built between 1802 and 1807: the original wing of the House of Representatives for which George Washington laid the corner stone.

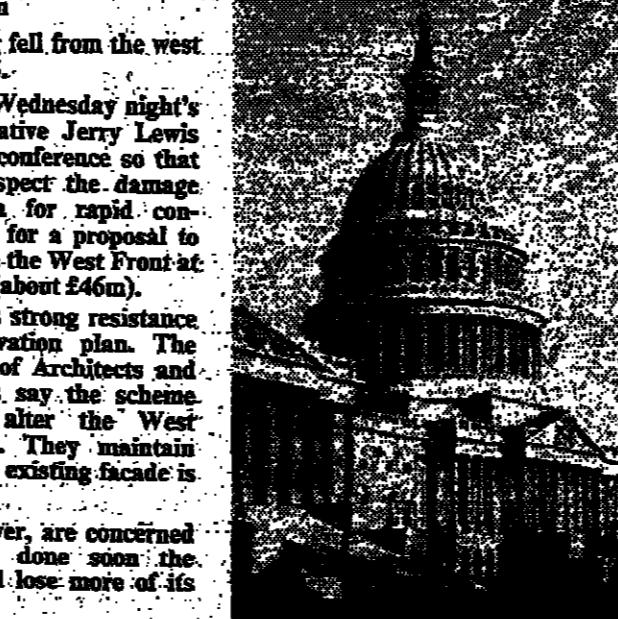
Although no-one was injured it was the most serious incident to befall the building since a 40lb chunk of

decorative moulding fell from the west central front in 1963.

Within hours of Wednesday night's incident, Representative Jerry Lewis had called a press conference so that journalists could inspect the damage and hear his plea for rapid congressional approval for a proposal to enlarge and improve the West Front at a cost of over \$70m (about £46m).

However, there is strong resistance to the \$70m renovation plan. The American Institute of Architects and conservation groups say the scheme would drastically alter the West Front's appearance. They maintain that a facsimile of the existing facade is all that is required.

Both sides, however, are concerned that if nothing is done soon the "wedding cake" will lose more of its icing.



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'Million acres derelict'

More than a million acres of land in Britain, five times the area usually regarded as derelict, have been damaged by industrial development, a conference was told yesterday.

Professor Graham Ashworth, head of urban environmental studies at Salford University and a former president of the Royal Town Planning Institute, said the figure of 25,000 acres usually quoted should be multiplied five times for a true picture of damaged land.

He called for a unit at governmental level to be set up to run a national waste disposal and reclamation strategy.

Waste land was "dangerous, damaging, ugly and impeding", Professor Ashworth told the closing session of Reclamation 83, a four-day conference of local authorities and industry at Grays, Essex. "We shall never know how much economic development has been hindered because of bad environment."

Professor Ashworth described the creation of an international garden festival at derelict docks in Liverpool as a great act of faith.

Beatles museum given £40,000

A planned museum in Liverpool to the Beatles is to get a £40,000 urban development grant from the Government, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced yesterday.

The development in a building near the site of the Cavern Club, where the group began, is being carried out by the commercial radio station Radio City, with support from Merseyside County Council and the English Tourist Board.

Benefit Giro stays first class

The Government has dropped plans to send Giro cheques for social security benefits by second-class post, Mr Anthony Newton, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, said in a commons written reply yesterday.

He said he was looking for economies without causing hardship or inconvenience to claimants.

Blow to video pirates

The campaign against video piracy was advanced significantly yesterday when the Copyright (Amendment) Bill completed its passage through the Commons.

It means the present maximum penalty under the Copyright Act of £50 for trading in pirate videos goes up to £1,000 with an unlimited fine and a maximum of two years' imprisonment on conviction by a crown court.

Parliament, page 4

Arson charges withdrawn

John Alfred Walker, aged 31, of Harchills Avenue, Leeds, was committed for trial at Leeds Crown Court by magistrates at Bradford, West Yorkshire, yesterday, charged with stealing property valued at £263 from a house in Bradford. An application for bail was rejected.

Charges of damaging a flat in Bradford with intent to endanger life, and causing damage of more than £1,000 by fire to two houses near Plymouth in January last year, were withdrawn.

Hunting banned

The Labour-controlled Thamesdown Borough Council has banned fox hunting on its land. The ban will cover 1,000 acres in the Wiltshire borough.

Correction

Nationalization of the top 25 companies and renationalization of privatized industry, with compensation only on the ground of proven need, have not been included in Labour's manifesto as stated yesterday.

'Dr Doolittle' fined for his anti-fraud crusade

A self-styled Dr Doolittle who wanted to "talk to the bureaucrats" defrauded the Department of Health and Social Security of more than £11,000, claiming it was in the public interest, magistrates in Wimbledon, south London, were told yesterday.

Brian Davies, aged 53, of Kingsmead Avenue, Worcester Park, claimed unemployment and supplementary benefit for four years while he was working full time. He was convicted of five charges of making false statements to the department and was fined £1,000 and ordered to pay £200 costs.

Mr Ian Wheatley, for the prosecution, said: "Dr Davis was finally caught after he wrote a letter to the Speaker of the House of Commons saying: 'Knowing that the DHSS ignored small frauds, I see myself a target of £12,000, which I expected to take a period of four years to obtain'."

Davis, a PhD and BSc, a former management consultant now working as a jobbing gardener, received £11,470

Election issues matter more than the date, Biffen says

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons and a known Cabinet advocate of election delay, last night threw himself into the pre-June campaign with a denunciation of the Labour Party's Bennite platform.

He said in Bristol: "We are now all deafened by the chatter of general election dates. I will not add to the chorus. There is little further to be said. The debate should now proceed to election issues and party policies."

Mr Biffen chooses his words with acute care, and the fact that he has now jumped on to the campaign bandwagon will make it all the more difficult for the Prime Minister to extricate himself from the June option.

He said last night: "This election is going to be one of the most exciting and important since 1945. There really is the option of radical Bennite change."

In spite of the fact that Mr Wedgwood Benn now broods on Labour's backbenches, he had managed to imprint his own particular brand of socialism on Labour's policies.

"Had he not discarded his privileged coronet, Tony would be casting it in the air at such exciting prospects," Mr Biffen said.

"By conscious choice, or by miscalculation, the British public could soon be taking a giant stride to the left; a taxation and planned equality."

The lesson, he added, was clear. Labour had been captured by Mr Benn and his backers.

The Labour right, including Mr Denis Healey were burnt out.

"They are yesterday's men in ideas and organization."

Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, said in Warrington that although the Prime Minister spoke of recovery, there had been no recovery for the extra 2.5 million people who were now on supplementary benefit with one-in-eight now dependent on it or for the people who had been affected by the Conservative destruction of two million jobs.

He added: "Mrs Thatcher and the Tories banker after our Victorian past. The general election will be the past versus the future."

The campaign is even including sub-debates about specifics. Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Conservative Party chairman, said in Solihull that Labour planned to "delive the nation's crime fighters into the hands of

Salvage unit to be wound up

The Salvage Corps in London, Liverpool and Glasgow will be wound up next year, it was announced yesterday. The privately-owned service, which employs 300, was founded in the nineteenth century by insurance companies, to minimize the damage caused by fire and water damage.

But the committee of insurers, which spends £4.5m a year on running the specialist service, says it believes it can no longer be justified. The job of safeguarding property after fire will be taken over by fire brigades, as in other cities. The committee hopes that the 300 employees will be found jobs in the fire brigades but some of the men believe that their work cannot be adequately done by firemen.

The corps, its vans are frequently seen at the scene of fires in the capital, said in a statement that its management committee "has been increasingly concerned" about its effectiveness.

"The changing shape of commercial interests within London and the ever-widening dispersal of premises and risks, leads to the unavoidable conclusion that a specialist service can no longer be justified," it said.

Mr George Wright, general secretary of the Wales TUC, told *The Times*: "The warnings about social unrest first came to the fore in Wales in 1980-81 during the steel strikes and closures."

The motion said that the Government was responsible for the "near destruction" of the economy and that it was directly responsible for the high level of unemployment in Wales and "a lowering of the quality of life for the majority of working people".

Mr George Wright, general secretary of the Wales TUC, told *The Times*: "The warnings about social unrest first came to the fore in Wales in 1980-81 during the steel strikes and closures."

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Parkinson gets key role in TV-am's future with place on board

By Kenneth Gelling

Michael Parkinson emerged yesterday as one of the key factors in TV-am's survival programme when his appointment to the board of the company was announced by Mr Timothy Aitken, chief executive.

Mr Aitken made it clear, in announcing new financial arrangements to secure the future of the commercial breakfast television service, that Mr Parkinson would be putting forward programme ideas, in addition to his present duties, in shared with his wife, Mary Parkinson, of presenting the weekend programmes the most successful in ratings terms.

Mr Aitken, questioned by reporters on the appointment, yet to be approved by the Independent Broadcasting Authority, said: "It was not as a result of an ultimatum delivered to us."

He emphasized that Mr Parkinson's role would not clash with that of Mr Greg

Dyke, the new editor-in-chief. Mr Aitken added that he had wanted him on the board because he believed Mr Parkinson to be "a totally professional and dedicated man who knows about making television work particularly in terms of people viewing it".

At their meeting on the day of the breakup of the "famous five" presentation team, he had come to understand the company's problems, Mr Aitken said.

Mr Michael Deakin, who continues to be director of programmes, but the appointment of Mr Hilary Lawson as deputy chief executive, which the board would have had to approve, had not taken place and he is no longer with the company.

Improving revenue was not only to do with advertising, he added. David Frost would be involved in a lot of things we have planned, but which Mr Aitken would not specify.

He added that the staff had responded at all levels in a dramatic way to the cost-cutting exercise. There had been the need for only a few redundancies, operating costs having been reduced by 25 per cent, he said.

Mr Aitken, who impressed by his forthright answers, gave an example of how costs had risen.

One of the stories I heard was of one man who bought a TR7 on the strength of his overtime alone.

Asked what had happened to him, Mr Aitken said: "He can not buy a TR7 on his earnings any more." But was he still with the company? "Yes, he is. Any character as creative as that bloody well ought to be."

Mr Robert Kee, the other "famous five" survivor, is to continue to play a leading role.

Mr Aitken refused to comment on the dismissal of Anna Ford and Angela Rippon, a matter in which he and the board were interested in seeing a fair and proper settlement but which was still with solicitors.

His most important point was that costs would be at a level to ensure survival, even if advertising was not as great in the original budget "and won't be for some considerable time".

He confirmed that the company's bank overdraft of £3m had been reinstated, and that all the institutional shareholders would fully honour financial commitments to TV-am.

Refusing to discuss figures, Mr Aitken said that he was convinced that the necessary funds were available to give them time to build themselves up again, particularly so far as the ratings - down to 300,000 - were concerned.

The point is that the losses talked about in the old budget do not exist in the new one. I have not been sitting here doing nothing for the past two weeks.

Facing the press: Lord Marsh (left), TV-am chairman, and Mr Timothy Aitken, chief executive, yesterday (Photograph: Chris Harris)



Family gathering: Five police dogs from the same litter at a passing out parade in Keston, south London, which ended their 14-week training course (Photograph: Peter Trewin)

Actor fined for cocaine possession

Nicholas Ball, aged 36, who starred in the television series *Hazel*, was fined £700 yesterday for possessing 9.05 grammes of cocaine. He admitted unlawfully possessing the drug on March 16 when he appeared at Bow Street Magistrate's Court, London.

No evidence was offered on a second charge, which Ball had denied, that he had carried cocaine knowing it to be illegally imported.

Mr Anthony Baldwin, prosecuting for the customs and excise, said customs officers were keeping premises in New Bond Street, London, under observation in relation to smuggling matters on March 16.

Ball was stopped as he came out of the premises and walked along the street. Mr Baldwin said: "He was taken to an official car and said: 'This is probably what you are looking for.' He produced cocaine which was found to weigh 9.05 grammes.

Ball of Kensington Park Road, south-east London, was then arrested and taken to a customs investigation division where he was interviewed under caution.

Mr Baldwin said that Ball said he was using the drugs "cocaine and dope. That is all I ever use. The coke is quite recent."

Ball told the customs officers that he had started using cocaine when his mother died in about November, 1981. Mr Baldwin said: "When asked how often he got it, Ball was said to have replied: 'Just when I want toiven myself up or something equally stupid.'

The cocaine found on him was worth about £50 a gramme, making his quantity worth £543.

Mr Alun Jones, Ball's lawyer, said that *Hazel* had made Ball well-known in the mid-1970s. Soon after, he married an actress who later became a household name (Pamela Stephenson, star of *Not the Nine O'Clock News*).

"But he and his wife separated in circumstances that became very distressing for Mr Ball," Mr Jones said.

"Because he and his wife were so well-known he came under the intense interest of the press and television. In addition to the break-up of his marriage, he had to cope with newspapermen on his doorstep, pictures of his flat on television and endless requests for interviews."

Ball's mother died in the same year.

Death threat halts snooker championship

By Sydney Friskin

A death threat to Steve Davis caused a 35-minute delay to his semi-final match in the world professional snooker championship against Alex Higgins in the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, yesterday.

At about noon a telephone call was received at the theatre. It indicated that Mr Davies, the 1981 champion, was likely to be shot.

Inspector Harold McCudden summoned six police officers to the scene. After the ball was cleaned spectators were searched before they were readmitted.

Every corner of the theatre, including the lavatories, was also examined with metal detectors. Nothing was found.

Mr McCudden said that he knew something was happening but did not quite understand what it was and thought it might have been a bomb scare.

He added that it would not have made any difference to his play if he had known there had been a death threat.

Mr Davies said: "I must have been playing exceptionally well for someone to have made such a call".

Championship report, page 16

MP gets costs as libel action over letter fails

From Richard Ford, Belfast

A former senior official in the Northern Ireland housing executive yesterday lost an action alleging that an Official Unionist MP libelled him in a letter by inferring he had abused his position to advance Roman Catholic.

The Belfast Recorder said written remarks made by Mr Harold McCusker, MP for Armagh, were defamatory, and the conclusions he reached owed more to "prejudice than to reason or to logic". Dismissing a claim for £1,000 damages by Mr Oliver Kearney, a Roman Catholic and former personnel manager with the executive, Judge Higgins said Mr McCusker's comments were made by an MP holding qualified privilege.

The judge awarded costs to Mr Kearney, of Antrim, said the MP had sent a letter to the court after the hearing that he had never wanted the matter made public.

The letter added: "Should I be surprised at this development when your personnel manager and his deputy are Roman Catholics, and when the interview panel for management trainees is predominantly Roman Catholic?"

The judge awarded costs to Mr McCusker, who said after the hearing that he had never wanted the matter made public.

Ministers may soon add to the 33 areas of outstanding natural beauty that now cover about a tenth of the area of England and Wales. They have decided that the Conservatives cannot enter the general election campaign without appealing to the environmental lobby which crosses party boundaries.

After examining recommendations made by the Countryside Commission, the Government has decided that there is a case for adding to the areas. An area of outstanding natural beauty is the next grade of landscape protection after that of national park.

Development controls are supposed to be tougher in such areas than outside, and they are supposed to attract grants to farmers and landowners who adopt policies of protecting wildlife and the appearance of the countryside.

Compensation concern

A British Medical Association working party is to explore the idea that compensation for medical accidents in hospitals and surgeries could be awarded in future without patients or their relatives having to prove negligence.

The association said yesterday it hoped proposals would be drawn up for discussion by doctors, the public and the Government.

The move comes after growing concern over medical accidents and the difficulties of finding out why they happen and of getting compensation.

Hospital administrators are also anxious to have a system to

ensure that when an accident occurs they can find out the facts and stop it happening again.

At present, once legal writs are issued, that can be difficult because medical defence bodies have been known to advise doctors not to cooperate with inquiries.

Mr David Bolt, the leader of Britain's 17,000 hospital consultants, told a BMA press conference in London: "There are cases where some technical mishap has arisen which has produced catastrophic results. The profession would feel happy if compensation was not dependent on patients proving negligence."

The judge awarded costs to

Mr Kearney, of Antrim, said the MP had sent a letter to the court after the hearing that he had never wanted the matter made public.

The letter added: "Should I be surprised at this development when your personnel manager and his deputy are Roman Catholics, and when the interview panel for management trainees is predominantly Roman Catholic?"

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Intelligence captain to be dismissed

A captain in the Intelligence Corps was sentenced yesterday to be dismissed the service for being drunk when in charge of a patrol on the East German border last November.

Captain John Apps, aged 32, had admitted the charge at a court martial in Aldershot, Hampshire and another that he had failed to ensure the efficiency of other members of the patrol was not impaired by drink.

Earlier in the hearing he was cleared of acting indecently towards a soldier, which he had denied.

The prosecution had alleged that he kissed Craftsman John Curley on the neck and that Craftsman Curley had punched the captain, knocking him out.

The alleged incidents occurred at Kapern, half a mile from the East German border, last November after the patrol stopped to spend the night at a guesthouse.

Some of the soldiers danced with three German girls in the bar. At one point, Captain Apps crawled on the floor, playing with a dog.

Captain Apps told his second-in-command he had drunk 10 or 12 large beers, the court was told earlier.

Captain Apps who is married with two children, was commissioned from Sandhurst in 1970 and later went on a Russian interpreters' course before being posted to 14 Signal Regiment as intelligence officer. His service record was said to be very good.

Mr Charles Kelly, for the defence, said the Captain felt remorse for what had happened.

At the start of yesterday's proceedings the Judge Advocate referred to a cartoon which appeared in Thursday's London evening newspaper *The Standard*, and which he said reflected on the proceedings of the court martial.

Judge Advocate Geoffrey Chapman said the court should consider it under section 101 of the Army Act, which relates to the court's powers over contempt.

Her visit comes shortly before a meeting on May 17 on the VAT ruling between Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and a delegation from the heritage lobby led by Sir Andrew Drew, chairman of the Museums and Galleries Commission.

Lord Scarsdale has said he is reconsidering whether to offer about £2m worth of Kedleston's art treasures to the nation in lieu of taxes, because at present, sales of works of art which have been on show to the public are liable for VAT.

He would have to pay about £300,000 in tax to customs and excise. Condemning the ruling, he recently gave warning that he "might have to do another Merton and sell off the whole lot of art treasures".

He and other owners of historic houses are pressing for works of art on show to the public not to be treated as assets of a business but to be zero rated for VAT purposes.

Countryside protection likely to be increased

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

The North Pennines is a strong candidate for confirmation by ministers. The Government decided six months after the last general election not to confirm it because the commission was still examining policy.

Another candidate is the 370 square mile area of the proposed Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs area.

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Few city politicians can talk

about the elections for long

without a famous name crop-

ing up, that of Mr Wedgwood

Public hopes of Shultz shuttle mission give way to private fears

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

This weekend is expected to prove crucial in determining whether the maiden shuttle mission to the Middle East by Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, stands any hope of success in bridging the gap between Israel and Lebanon over troops withdrawn.

The more important question about whether Syria will accept an Israeli-Lebanese agreement also remains unresolved and is overshadowing Mr Shultz's efforts which, to succeed, require the withdrawal of 30,000 Syrian soldiers and 1,000 tanks at the same time.

Some form of breakthrough is vital, not only for the political reputation of Mr Shultz who has been just nine months in the job and has recently come under criticism, but also for the reputation of the Reagan Administration's foreign policy.

The American delegation is already believed to have transmitted a pessimistic assessment to the White House of the chances of success for the mission. These have combined with leaks about Mr Shultz's initial reluctance to go on the mission to provide a general mood of despondency.

These private reflections have been countered by public statements of hope and goodwill, although the optimism of the first stage of the mission in Egypt quickly wore off. Yesterday, the most Mr Shultz could do for the cameras was to speak of "an inch or maybe an inch and a half of progress".

Inevitably, his performance is being compared with that of his

two best-known predecessors, Dr Henry Kissinger and Mr Alexander Haig, and, perhaps inevitably for an economist who shows no great taste for public performance, it has already been found lacklustre.

Yesterday for the first time since the mission began, Mr Shultz switched from exploratory talks to real negotiation during meetings with Mr Menahem Begin, the Prime Minister, and other senior Cabinet members.

Over the next 48 hours, Mr Shultz is due to hold a series of top-level meetings in Beirut and Jerusalem, including a private session with Mr Begin, which should demonstrate whether there is sufficient common ground for intensive shuttle diplomacy to secure agreement.

Tomorrow, the Israeli Cabinet will hold its first session since the shuttle began, and ministers are expected to look for areas where Israel can soften its consistent hard line, especially over security demands for southern Lebanon.

Any hope of movement from Jerusalem over the sticking point of the future role of Major Saad Haddad, the militia leader whose men are financed, armed and trained by Israel, appeared to have been ruled out after the Foreign Ministry swiftly quashed local reports that a concession had been conveyed to the US.

A senior Israeli official described the renegade major as "a Lebanese patriot" and contemptuously dismissed a comment made by the Beirut Government that it was "unprecedented" for one nation to be

demanded sovereign rights in appointing a national of the other.

"Other position is very clear and unchanged. The major should be given a position of command and responsibility in southern Lebanon", the official said after attending talks between Mr Shultz, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Moahe Arens, the Defence Minister. "We think that the Lebanese should reward Major Haddad for what he has done."

The Israeli stand seems to take no account that Major Haddad, aged 43, is known as a previous ally of the family of Mr Camille Chamoun, the former President of Lebanon and a noted rival of the Gemayel family, a member of which is now Lebanon's head of state.

Deportation sought: Mr Neil Scher, acting director of the US Justice Department's special investigations unit, arrived in Jerusalem this week to study the possibility of deporting Archbishop Valerian Trifa of Romania from America to Israel to stand trial for alleged war crimes. David Bernstein writes.

The 68-year-old former head of the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate in the US and Canada, who was stripped of his American citizenship last October, is alleged to have incited a pro-Nazi riot in Bucharest in 1941, which resulted in the deaths of some 230 Jews and Christians.

The Justice Department ordered Archbishop Trifa to be deported, but he has been ruled out after the Foreign Ministry swiftly quashed local reports that a concession had been conveyed to the US.

A senior Israeli official described the renegade major as "a Lebanese patriot" and contemptuously dismissed a comment made by the Beirut Government that it was "unprecedented" for one nation to be

East-West trade tension worsens

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Tensions in Washington over East-West trade worsened yesterday as Reagan Administration officials reacted negatively to an unusually strong diplomatic protest filed by the European Community.

The eight-page document, which was approved by the Council of Ministers last Monday, expressed the Community's "deep abiding concern" over new US proposals to toughen controls on Western trade to Soviet block countries.

Specifically, the Community urged the Administration to reconsider proposed legislation that would invest the President with even greater authority to restrict the flow of goods from both US and European companies to East Europe.

The Administration has asked for the tougher trade curbs in proposed legislation to renew the expiring US Export Administration Act. Congress is holding hearings on the legislation and is expected to take some important decisions in weeks ahead.

A Community official said the Council of Ministers decided to lodge a protest at this

EEC urges lower US rates

From Ian Murray
Brussels

The American Administration came under further pressure to use its influence to force down interest rates and stabilize currencies, at a top-level meeting in Brussels which ended yesterday.

The meeting was called by the US with the EEC, Japan and Canada specifically to study the effects of finance on trade.

The EEC has been growing increasingly anxious that high interest rates are bankrupting Third World countries and making it impossible for them to trade with industrialized countries.

At a meeting last week in Washington with President Reagan, Mr Gaston Thorn, the president of the European Commission, urged the Administration to intervene to cut interest rates and to stabilize exchange rates in order to help overcome the world recession.

This theme was taken up again at the meeting in Brussels when Mr William Brock, West German Ambassador to President Reagan's special trade representative, heard the case again.

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Meanwhile, the magazine yesterday published a declaration by the widow of Hitler's personal chauffeur, Erich Kempka, who died in 1975. She said her husband never doubted that Hitler kept a diary. She was quoted as saying that her husband used to observe Hitler making notes in the car and remarking that he had to write this or that down in his diary.

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Kohl puzzled by Honecker's cancellation of Bonn visit

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Chancellor Helmut Kohl yesterday described the decision by Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, to cancel his visit to Bonn as "incomprehensible", and said it did not release the East German leadership from its obligation to remove obstacles and improve relations between the two German states.

Replying to allegations of a press campaign against East Germany Dr Kohl said it was well known that the press in West Germany was free to say what it wanted. Bonn's policy would continue to strive for improvements for people living in all Germany.

The Bonn Government spokesman refused to go beyond the significantly brief statement, or to voice any official expression of regret. He said a possible renewal of the invitation at some later date was not a matter for discussion at present.

The Chancellor's taciturnity may reflect both his anger at the political hubbub here which has contributed to the cancellation, and his wish not to say anything that might further inflame relations between the two states, which have taken a sharp turn for the worse.

Other politicians, however, were more forthcoming. Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister who has pressed strongly for "continuity" in Bonn's relations with East Berlin, said Herr Honecker's decision must not be the last word on a top-level dialogue this year. People in both parts of Germany expected it to continue and it was West Germany's responsibility not to make things more difficult.

The opposition Social Democrats were more outspoken, calling the cancellation a tangible setback, and urging Dr Kohl to stand up to Herr Franz Josef Strauss, who has been leading the campaign to toughen up official policy towards East Germany.

For its part Herr Strauss's Christian Social Union has appeared somewhat surprised by the cancellation, which it wanted to come from the West German side. One party official said it was a sign that East Germany was not ready to make improvements in human contacts between the two states.

Herr Strauss himself said the cancellation was something that had to be foreseen and would not have any tragic consequences. It was probably a good thing that Herr Honecker was not coming. Herr Strauss laid all the blame for the recent polemics over policy towards East Germany on the Free Democrats.

Bouquet of barbed wire, page 6

Greece and Turkey try again

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece and Turkey have agreed to renew efforts to improve their relations but also to refrain from any action that might prejudice them.

This promising first step towards a rapprochement was made in Strasbourg on Thursday during a two-hour meeting between the foreign ministers of Greece and Turkey, Mr Yiannis Karalambopoulos and Mr Irakli Turkmen.

The pledge to abstain from provocative actions is significant, as Greece makes it a condition for the resumption of the diplomatic dialogue.

Turkish poll date

Ankara (AP) - President Kenan Evren of Turkey announced yesterday that a general election for a new 400-member parliament, to mark a full return to civilian rule, will be held on November 6.

The military regime took over the country on September 12, 1980, in a bloodless coup, and last November a new constitution was approved in a national referendum. General Evren was elected president for a seven-year term in the same ballot. Last weekend the generals partially lifted a ban on political activity as a new law on political parties came into force.

between the two countries, which the Greek Socialists broke off when they came to power 18 months ago.

Greece and Turkey have serious differences over questions of sovereignty and jurisdiction in the Aegean. The Turkish side's systematic practice of challenging the width of Greek air space in the area has led to dangerous incidents in the past.

Last November, following massive Turkish air violations, the Greek Government called off a meeting of the two foreign ministers which was due in Brussels.

The improvement in relations coincided with a unanimous decision by the foreign relations committee of the US Senate to uphold the seven to 10 ratio on military aid to Greece and Turkey for the fiscal year 1984.

Red dye thrown at royal couple

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington

The Greeks, however, blamed Herr Strauss for describing as murder the death on the border of Herr Rudolf Burkert, and said it had been an attempt to revert to the cold war. Bonn has been taken aback by Herr Honecker's statement, and suspects that there is more than the border death controversy behind it.

Herr Honecker recently visited Moscow, and consulted the Soviet Ambassador in East Berlin before the announcement of the cancellation was issued.

It is thought here that the Russians may have objected to his coming so soon before West Germany goes ahead with the deployment of Nato nuclear missiles.

East Germany has clearly tried to play down the effects of the cancellation. The announcement, though on page one of *Neues Deutschland* newspaper, was headed, "Haber-Brügmann talks," referring to the meeting between the party official who gave the information and the head of a giant traditional Maori war canoe.

They were propelled by the paddle of 80 warms half a mile up the bay to a landing point beneath historic Waitangi treaty house.

The Princess looked a bit apprehensive at first as the long vessel gathered speed but was soon relaxed and smiling.

Prince Charles was presented with a carved ceremonial paddle and the Princess with a greenstone *Tiki* (Maori amulet).

The royal couple and Prince William fly out of Auckland later today after a two-week visit which will have cemented New Zealand's strong ties with the crown. The popular mood has been one of delight, yesterday's protest not withstanding.

For their part, the Prince and the Princess displayed a matching enthusiasm as they shook countless hands and exchanged pleasantries with well-wishers.

Predictably, the Princess was the star attraction. She was always elegant, demure and friendly.

Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, who associated himself closely with the tour programme, touched on this aspect at the glittering farewell banquet last night.

He observed that New Zealand had in store of young people exhibiting some disdain of orthodoxy, and the establishment, but with the visit, he suggested, they had seen the other side of the coin.

They would have found the Prince and Princess a charming, unaffected young couple with whom they could identify.

On Thursday Bonn pressed again for a full report on Herr Molderhauer's death. That evening the East Germans also suffered a heart attack while being questioned. Bonn demanded full details from East Berlin, and criticized border guards behaviour.

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Reign in Spain?

The Spanish newspaper *Diario 16* has an intriguing, may positively inspired report that the Foreign Office has requested approval for the appointment of Lord Thomas as Britain's next ambassador to Madrid. Thomas, better known as Hugh Thomas, the historian of the Spanish civil war, is chairman of the Centre for Policy Studies, set up by Margaret Thatcher and Sir Keith Joseph in 1974, and has been a close adviser to the Prime Minister on foreign affairs. Thomas is diplomatically absent from London for a few days; all calls are being referred to a discreetly silent head of the diplomatic service, Sir Antony Acland. Draw your own conclusions.

What's new

Next week sees the first issue of yet another SDP-Liberal Alliance publishing venture. The monthly *New Democrat* incorporates the former *Alliance* magazine and attempts to replace the fortnightly *Democrat*, which ceased publication at the beginning of February. *Democrat* has left its chairman, Michael Golder, SDP candidate for Gloucester and chairman of the Kennedy Brookes catering chain, struggling to pay off a swathe of debts, though it started by offering an editorial salary so large that even *PFS* was tempted to apply (and John Torode of *The Guardian*, briefly, to accept the job). *New Democrat* will be much more parsimonious, sharing offices and printers with two small music magazines, *Black Music* and *Blues and Soul*. Its editors, Christopher Layton, formerly of *Alliance*, and Richard Lamb, who used to run the Liberal *New Outlook*, work as volunteers and Lamb tells me: "About £25 per thousand words will be top pay for anybody".

• *The Hare and Hounds Inn at Sidbury in Devon advertises a "Children's Room and Monkey Sanctuary."*

Table d'Herut

Lieutenant-General Rafael Eitan, whose recent retirement as Israeli chief of staff was not as speedy as the Kahan report on the Sabra and Chatila massacres had suggested it should be, is to be guest of honour at this year's Jerusalem Day festivities in London on May 10, organized by British supporters of Menachem Begin's ruling Herut party. Eitan had also outraged liberal Israelis by commuting sentences of soldiers jailed for killing Arab civilians in occupied territories. Eric Graus, president of British Herut, says: "Anyone can be controversial. We think he is a great man."

Getting ahead

Staff at the *Daily Express* are keeping a careful watch on their new editor, Sir Larry Lamb. Twenty years ago as humble Albert, a sub-editor on the *Daily Mail* he beat over his desk in his hurry to get on, and impaled himself right between the eyes on his copy spike. It took several hours and a hospital visit to get the steel out of his head, but they say time has given him greater dexterity with sharp implements since.

Cutting remarks

There was hollow laughter at the British Tourist Authority's information centre in St James's when a call came from the Department of Trade to say that a group of visiting dignitaries were expected and could the centre provide the comprehensive information pack which had been so much appreciated in the past. The centre closed yesterday, as part of budget cuts ordered by the Department of Trade.

• Richard Baker arrived with perfect timing at the studios of TV-am just as Fleet Street emerged from Timothy Aitken's press conference. A new signing? The former BBC newsreader, now a freelance, regretted not: "This is my son," he explained. "He works here."

Roger and out

What Pryce accuracy? Virgin Film's publicity for *The Ploughman's Lunch* apologizes for calling Jonathan Pryce, who is in the film, Roger Pryce, who is not. "This was entirely due to our current preoccupation with the BBC-TV series *Roger Doesn't Live Here Anymore* in which Jonathan plays Roger." It sounds more like a dog's breakfast.

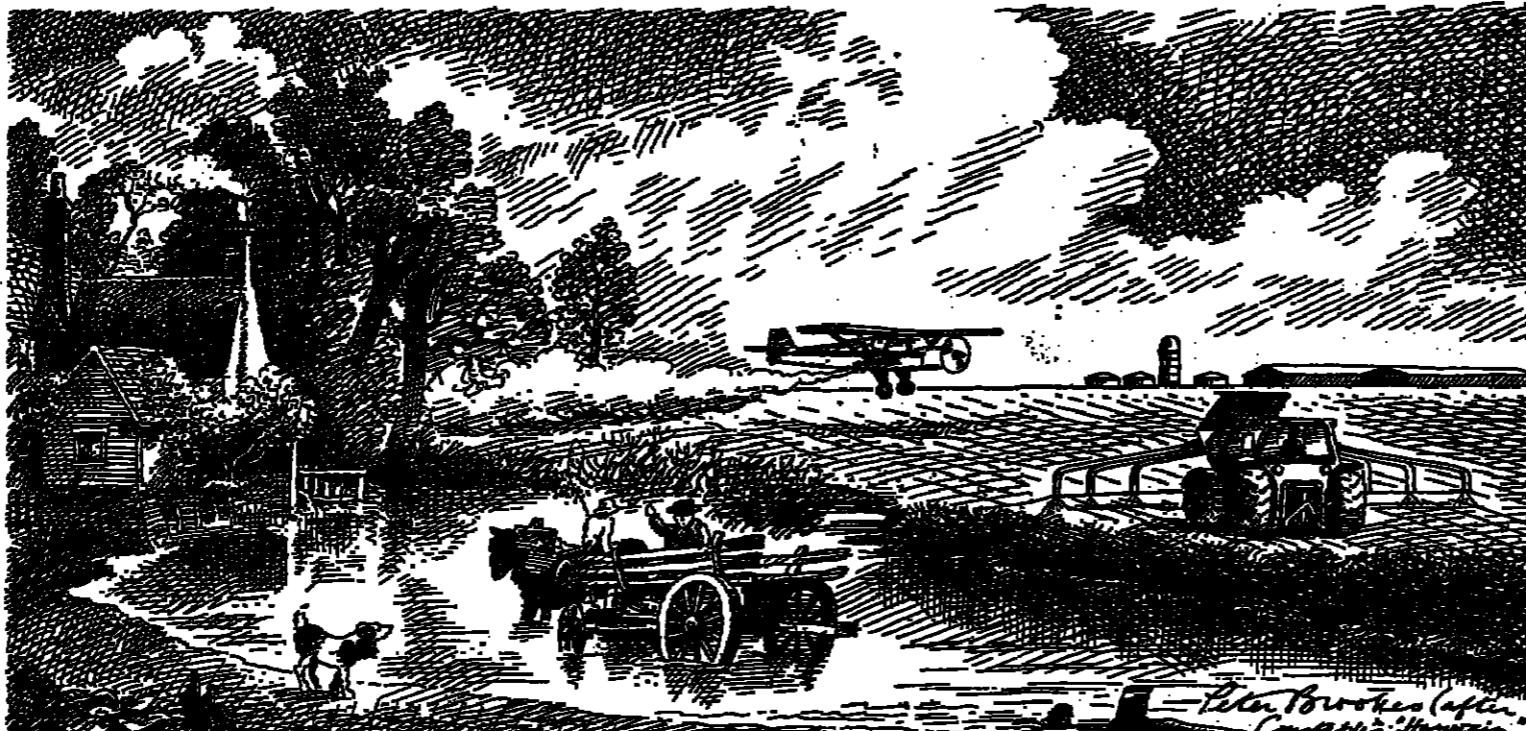
Brush-off

In a letter published in the March issue of *Good Housekeeping* Joan Bernstein of Brighton expressed the wish that she could fly to Milan regularly to have her hair done. She has now received a letter from M. B. Cox, director of Fitzherbert's Hair Artists, her usual stylists, saying that if she admires the Milan hairdressing salons so much, he suggests she patronize those establishments "whose employees may enjoy dealing with you more than I do." Her appointment was cancelled, and Cox added: "No further appointments will be taken."

Dingoes are rampant, OK? Not only has Lindy Chamberlain's appeal been refused in Australia, but Patrick Stane, Caffing writes to say that the animal which bit him in Australia (Diary April 12) was not a dingo but a domestic terrier. Nor did it get him in the outback, leaving a ten-inch scar, but in Todd Street, Alice Springs, nipping his skin. Caffing thinks we ought to get this right, for the sake of the Northern Territory's tourist trade.

PHS

The countryside debate: conservation v subsidized surpluses



Must the taxpayer be milked?

Send the farmer back to market

The main purpose of taking money away from the taxpayer and giving it to the farmer was, we were told when the system began in 1947, to keep people employed on the land. Since then, two things have happened: the number of farmers and farm workers has more than halved and the burden on the taxpayer of supporting those who survived has about doubled in real terms. In cash terms, the cost of agricultural support is 20 times more than it was in 1947.

As the number of farmers declines, and the cost of supporting them mounts, it seems painfully obvious that the system is not working. On top of that, the steady transformation of our countryside, making ever larger parts of our rural counties look like Manitoba or Indiana, is beginning to make the taxpayer wonder whether he is getting value for his millions.

As for the consumer, he now seems to be eating as expensively as anyone in the world. It comes as a shock, for example, to sit down in a restaurant in New York and find the prices so much lower than in London.

Yet farmers have been the saddest casualties. Most of the half who have been forced out have been small livestock farmers who were never a burden on the taxpayer. It can be shown clearly that those who have left farming seldom got much out of the taxpayer at all; and as it is taxpayers' money that is reshaping the pattern of British farming and changing the sight and sounds of the countryside, it follows naturally that modern farming is becoming ever more dependent upon the largesse of the rest of us. It is also being made increasingly inefficient, if the badge of an efficient business is its ability to trade profitably without public subsidy.

A political decision has been made that we should grow ever more wheat and other cereals, when both our soil and our climate make it impossible to grow them as

cheaply and efficiently as other countries.

Last week I was in the United States and flew over some of the 83 million acres now being "set aside". It is an area twice the size of the UK's total farmland, and all of it is now to lie fallow. Yet the soil and the climate is almost perfect for the growing of wheat, maize and other grains, at about half the cost here.

The British consumer (including the dairy farmer and the pig and poultry producer) has not indicated a refusal to buy this grain. Instead, a political decision has been made to tax it so heavily, when it enters a British port, that only a limited quantity comes in.

Further support is given to the arable farmer in the form of an export subsidy. As our wheat comes nearly twice as much to produce as that in the United States, the subsidy has to be almost as much as the world price itself. So much of our wheat has been exported this winter as a result that we are now running into a shortage, despite last year's record harvest. It means that this week our livestock producers are being told that the price of their feed will have to go up yet again. And this year, like last year and every year for the past decade, 2,000 or more of them will go out of business.

This political control over our food market ill serves the farmer, as it does the consumer and taxpayer. One remedy is at hand: to set up a royal commission, comprising some of the clearest brains in the country and farmers' representatives, and invite them to consider whether there is a case for giving taxpayers' money to support agriculture and, if so, how that support should be given.

The conclusion might well be that the present system should be dismantled altogether, that the consumer should be allowed to buy the food of first choice, and the only reason why the public should be coerced into paying money to the countryside. The latter task could then be entrusted to the Department of the Environment, which would do the opposite to what the Ministry of Agriculture has been doing for nearly 40 years.

Richard Body

The author is Conservative MP for Holland with Boston.

The authors are taking part in a day of debate on the future of the countryside at the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, today

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

A passionate insight into the master's mind

There is an ancient Chinese proverb which runs "If the very leader-writer are going to get in on the act, what will be left for the poor columnists?" For I, too, have been to Alfred Brendel's series of seven recitals at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, and I, too, have something to say on the subject. Let us see whether there is enough to go round; somehow, I rather think there will be.

This is not just a negative matter, an absence, say, of excessive *rubato*, of dynamic markings exaggerated or ignored for effect, of preface or flourish, of gesture. Brendel's authenticity is of a different order, and it is significant in this connection that he is a fanatical purist of the *Urtext*; he will never take the word of Breitkopf and Härtel if he can find a photograph of the manuscript, and I imagine that he wouldn't take the word of the photocopy if he could lay his hands on the manuscript itself.

This is just the beginning, for authenticity is much more than finding what notes the composer wished the performer to play and then playing them. Yet as soon as we leave that safe, literal ground, we are in trouble, for who can say how Beethoven wanted his music to sound? (I have heard a record of his keyboard music played on his own piano, but unfortunately it wasn't being played by him.) And even if Beethoven had given detailed instructions for the interpretation of his work, only a dot would be so mechanical as to follow them and go on following them for it is inconceivable that any composer, with the possible exception of Max Regen, would believe that a work once written is fixed for ever like a fly in amber, and that any subsequent deviation from the canonical reading is heresy; a true artist realizes, if only because he has experienced it in the case of works by others, that his art is not static but dynamic, and that it changes, despite the fact that it was created long before, as time goes by and feelings shift.

In other words, there is an infinity of authenticities in the Beethoven sonatas (yet another definition of art, it occurs to me); but that did not stop Brendel's versions, over these seven enchanted evenings, sounding as though they had sprung fully armed from the composer's noble brow.

Take the *Hammerklavier*, a test in which no pianist can hope to bluff his way to success. It is almost as far beyond any previous piano sonatas, including Beethoven's own (it is his 29th) as the last quartets are ahead of anything earlier in the same genre. The colossal last movement is one of the wildest pieces of music in history; though we smile now at the scandal caused by the first movement of the *Errolska*, we have still hardly caught up with the monster fugue ("fugue with some licences") that ends the work. It must sound as though it is about to fly apart like the stone being split, though it must not sound like the musical equivalent of action painting. Well, with Brendel, every bar of it sounds perfectly logical, controlled, marshalled like a squad of infantry, and yet more dangerously explosive and exciting than a cavalry charge.

Take another test, possibly even harder, Op 27 no. 2. Playing the *Moonlight* is the pianist's equivalent of an actor speaking "To be or not to be"; the entire audience can sing along, so how can it be made to sound unison without introducing eccentricity? In Brendel's case, by lavishing on every phrase such intensity of feeling that we are simply unable to hear the familiarity; it is as though a man struck dumb 20 years before has suddenly recovered the power of speech.

So it has been throughout; he even played *Fur Elise* as an encore one night, with not a soul in the hall but had heard it murdered a thousand times by the neighbours' daughter, and in consequence most wholeheartedly wished it dead and buried, along with the daughter. I tell you Brendel played it with as much fresh beauty and tenderness as

he brought to the *Appassionata*.

All the way through we have been transfixed not by the performer's art but by the composer's – the last test, and the most searching of all. Brendel vanishes behind the music; it is almost true to say that if you shut your eyes you miss nothing. What you gain is a journey, in Brendel's company, through Beethoven's genius, a journey of 32 milestones on each of which is carved passion, understanding, joy, hope, confidence, beauty, power, together with suffering and darkness, and, at the last, a serenity which is not of this world, but which Beethoven has been trusted to bring to us from his own *Sina* of death.

The series finished on Wednesday, it ended, fittingly, with Beethoven's last sonata, the Op. 111. As that final, infinite chord died away, there was a long, rapt silence before the applause began: we all felt, as Brendel does, that after the Op. 111 there is nothing more to say (it was the only one of the recitals at which he played no encore). But when the applause did begin it was heartfelt and prolonged; Beethoven's ultimate triumph had communicated itself to us with such force and urgency because of the way in which Alfred Brendel played the work. I was one of some 1,100 people in the hall; I hope none of the others will think me presumptuous if I say that I am speaking for us all when I say to the pianist: thank you.

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Michael Binyon

Swapping bouquets of barbed wire across the border

It is not a pleasant experience crossing the East German border. In my case the customs official was apparently friendly. But his banter became increasingly pointed: where had I spent the day in East Berlin and with whom? Had I been to the GDR, before anyone there already? Names please, and address. And then I was beckoned into a small room and asked to turn out my pockets and my wallet. What were these papers, was this money accounted for?

The tone was correct but intimidating. I felt menaced by unspoken threats, by suggestions of undefined power, and when everything was eventually given back and I was finally wished goodbye, I found I was trembling.

For West Germans the experience is often far worse. Travellers to West Berlin, people visiting relatives, are tolerated but not welcome in East Germany, and the brusque, often rough manner of the border officials, and the lengthy formalities are intended to make this clear. Many people find the atmosphere oppressive, and those who indeed transgress the complex regulations, deliberately or unintentionally, experience a sudden rush of fear.

For two West Germans this has recently had fatal consequences, and their heart attacks have had far-reaching effects. The chain reaction, started by the outcry here over Herr Rudi Burkhardt's mysterious head injuries, led to loudly trumpeted charges of murder by Herr Franz Josef Strauss and his conservative admirers, which in turn provoked a furious counter-reaction from East Berlin, culminating in the abrupt cancellation of a planned visit by Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader.

In the space of two weeks the delicate web of relationships linking the two countries, 10 years of patient cultivation of grudging trust, have been torn to pieces. The hardliners on both sides of the border have won a sudden and unexpected victory.

Chancellor Kohl must be furious. He believes strongly in keeping the dialogue alive, in the continuity of the "special relationship" that was beginning to grow up across the East-West divide and survived even the change of government in Bonn. But events moved too quickly for him. His old rival, Herr Strauss, still smarting from his worsting in the coalition negotiations, saw his chance and ran with it. The festering antagonism between the Christian Social Union and the Free Democrats broke out into the open, and the Honecker visit became the focal point of a public slanging match. Dr Kohl's avuncular calls on everyone to calm down were drowned in the din.

Are we back in a new ice-age? Will East Germany again become the forbidden land, the self-isolated enemy of the capitalist West, rebuffing all attempts at closer links, at more widespread human contacts? Already there are fears that the

1971 transit agreement on access to West Berlin may come under strain, that hopes of a reduction in the compulsory sum western visitors have to exchange on entry will be dashed, that progress in talks on joint environmental protection measures and a possible cultural treaty will be stalled. The inter-German detente that survived Afghanistan and – with more difficulty – Poland appears to have founded on its enemies' rhetoric, on the opportunistic exploitation of two heart attacks.

In fact the outlook is not quite so gloomy. A return by Bonn to the old policies of all or nothing, to the demands of German unity and free elections in the East, is out of the question. There may be a diplomatic sulk, some sharp and timely words to East Berlin about easing restrictions on human contact, if it still wants the vast financial aid it is now getting. But the Brandt-Treaty with the GDR remains the framework for relations. And most people have realized that the cherished aim of improving the lot of fellow Germans "over there" can be achieved only in an atmosphere in which the East does not again feel threatened – morally, politically, ideologically and economically – by its powerful western neighbour.

On the eastern side, dependence on the West to maintain living standards, especially at a time of economic crisis in all Eastern Europe, is now so great that East Berlin cannot afford to break off contacts and contracts. It has also come to see itself in an all-German context: not politically, of course, but culturally and spiritually. Ordinary people feel part of the western world by proxy. They take part vicariously in the debates and social currents now sweeping West Germany. And the leaders have concluded that it is not possible to consolidate the East German state – always a principal aim – on a basis of opposition to West Germany.

East Germany has long given high priority to stability between the two states. It has been drawn willy-nilly into the process of "coming together", which has forced it to replace the unrealizable dream of German unity. Herr Honecker probably knew that a visit here at this stage would set back rather than advance the cautious rapprochement he is clearly anxious to continue. And when time and fate will allow, both sides will quietly pick up the pieces from this week's debacle.

Gillian Tindall

More than just a right to die

Two years ago, when the sensational Exit trial was pending and the Voluntary Euthanasia Society was in disarray, the police raided the society's office, seized copies of its booklet, *A Guide to Self-Deliverance*, and arrested – briefly, and with embarrassment – its then chairman, Lord Beaumont.

The society was told that it would be prosecuted if it continued to distribute the booklet; it continued unimimidated – though, as always, only by mail order – to *bona fide* members aged at least 25.

It is an indication of the haze of uncertainty surrounding the whole concept of "aiding and abetting suicide" that in fact no prosecution followed; an injunction was threatened but was not implemented either, and finally the Attorney General settled for a simple declaration of the matter in the civil courts. This was heard last week, but turned out to be a further instalment in the saga of unknowing: the judge, Mr Justice Woolf, gave a judgment which was seemingly favourable to the VES cause, but pronounced himself unable to grant a declaration without further discussion.

The question remains unanswered, but will not cease to be asked: where exactly does the concerned third party stand, legally, in relation to what one of last week's counsel said to the court?

Much of last week's inconclusive argument hinged on whether or not the dissemination of general knowledge and advice about methods of suicide constitutes the aiding and abetting of an individual, which the law has traditionally punished. Less attention was paid to what some observers have felt to be a more fundamental question – namely, whether one can logically be said criminally to abet an act which is not of this world, but which Beethoven has been trusted to bring to us from his own *Sina* of death.

The idea that the continuation or termination of life is an individual business and not a matter of public morality is now widely accepted; it is the practice that is proving difficult to implement. What we are seeing is, I would submit, not a debate about suicide at all. That takes place in the privacy of the heart. Last week's case was about the freedom of knowledge. Experience in other fields has shown that you cannot, with the best intentions in the world, prevent people from gaining access to common sense information if that is what they want.

Behind the VES pressure lies a passionate desire not for death but for independence, for honesty, for not being pushed about to gratify other people's moral sensibilities. Whatever you may think of some of the possible long-term results of this demand, it is hard to deny that the impulse behind it is a healthy one.



Brendel: creating an impression of absolute authenticity

he brought to the *Appassionata*.

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THE ISSUE'S THE THING

The debate over unilateral nuclear disarmament is one of the critical issues of our time. No other question relates more directly to the continued existence of this country and its way of life. Strong passions are inevitably aroused, and when feelings run high political argument cannot always be conducted at the most elevated level. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that the exchanges are now focusing upon personalities as well as upon policies.

To some extent this is not only inevitable but legitimate. It is relevant to point out that a high proportion of those who are prominent in the leadership of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament are people of the far left, in one form or another. The political background of the leaders must be a factor in the way that the campaign is conducted, and there is no reason why this knowledge should be denied either to those who support CND or to the public at large.

THE WRONG COURTS

Two separate court decisions this week have spotlighted a disturbing legal trend. It is the growing use of the civil courts to enforce the criminal law. In the first decision, involving a trio of cases under the Shops Act 1950, the Court of Appeal held that local authorities were entitled to bring civil proceedings for an injunction to restrain shopkeepers from unlawful Sunday trading. In the second, a High Court judge refused an application by the Attorney General for a declaration that the distribution of the Voluntary Euthanasia Society's booklet, *A Guide to Self-Deliverance*, was an offence under the Suicide Act 1961. Significantly, it was stated in the proceedings that the Attorney General had originally envisaged seeking an injunction against the defendants as well as a declaration, but that he had later changed his mind because he expected that the Society would in fact observe the terms of any declaration granted by the court.

The use of the civil courts to enforce the criminal law, in cases where no private rights are infringed, is comparatively modern. Until the law was changed by the Local Government Act 1972, it was only the Attorney General, as the protector of public rights, who had the power to apply for an injunction restraining a breach of the general criminal law. The power was an exceptional one, confined

LIMOUSINES OF FIRE

The division bell had sounded, and all members within direct or electric earshot were hastening loyally to the Chamber to cast their votes within the seven minutes that the bell allows. Mr Edward Heath had sprung into his car at the signal and was cruising towards Parliament with minutes to spare (this was last Wednesday, by the way). But only a hundred yards from the Palace of Westminster he was brought to a halt; it was the police, clearing a way for the Queen Mother as she rode to a reception at Fishmongers' Hall. Mr Heath had to wait four minutes before his car was allowed to proceed. By then the doors of the voting lobbies had been closed. Fortunately the Government did not fall because of this mishap – in fact it had forty clear votes to play with. But it is the principle of the thing that counts.

This sort of affront, to a member "coming to or going from the House", is, as the Commons themselves declared in 1733: "a high infringement of the privileges of this House, a most outrageous and dangerous violation of the rights of Parliament and a high crime and misdemeanour". It is a familiar

problem: there has long been intermittent controversy in Westminster about the constitutionality of the Bridge Street traffic lights, which contribute to a greater average smoothness of access by MPs, but only at the cost in individual cases of facilitating the approach of some Members by barring it to others, with potentially dangerous discriminatory effect.

On Wednesday the obstruction was especially grave for it was committed not by just anybody but by (or at least in the interests of) royalty. It is scarcely too much to say that the Civil War was fought, or at least brought to a head, over this very issue. Royalty is not to detain, waylay or beguile MPs on their way to settle the destinies of the nation.

But one question remains. The present world record for the hundred yards dash is something under ten seconds. Even a knight in full armour or a dowager constricted by her hereditary ermine could normally be expected to cover the distance, glowering perhaps, within two minutes. Mr Heath had the option of leaving car and driver and proceeding to the lobby at a decorous trot, not inconsistent

with the dignity of a Privy Councillor. Some MPs did exactly that on Wednesday.

But at exactly this point of the argument, Erskine May wavers and becomes uncertain. Undoubtedly Mr Heath had a right to advance uninhibited, but it is by no means clear that this right extended to his car. The most relevant analogy is perhaps the right formerly possessed by servants of MPs to all their masters' privileges – to run up debts, thumb their noses at subpoenas, and no doubt to approach the House. But this transferred right was extinguished, or more properly passed over in silence, by the Parliamentary Privilege Act of 1770. It seems that car and driver have no claim to passage except insofar as they facilitate the MP's own approach – which in this case they seem rather to have obstructed. But without delving into the further implications for privilege that this opens up, it is enough to let the case stand as a reminder to selection committees, where vacancies for the next election still exist, of the advantages of a candidate who can put in a bit of leg-work on occasion, and is not above doing so.

grant to the second what has been refused to the first and thus be drawn into party political conflict. Exactly this occurred in Canada in 1926 – except that it was the Governor General, Lord Byng, who was involved and not the King.

The constitutional practice, then, is that the Prime Minister has a de facto right to a dissolution. After the indecisive election result of 1974, I understand that there was no possibility of Mr Harold Wilson being refused a dissolution had he asked for one.

The moral to draw from all this is that just as England, as Mr Disraeli said, "does not love coalitions", nor does she care for hung parliaments. An indecisive election could well lead on to a further immediate election which the voters would certainly not welcome. This is a good argument for resisting the temptation to vote for a third party. Our system is geared to two parties, not to three.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, NORMAN ST JOHN-STEVES, House of Commons.

April 26.

Commons. No self-conferred title, however sonorous or portentous can affect that.

Mr Steel further appears to be of the opinion that it is a Prime Minister appointed in such circumstances fails to command a majority in the House of Commons. He would have no right to a dissolution. That view was taken in theory by Queen Victoria, but in practice she never refused a dissolution.

Edward VII granted Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman an immediate dissolution when he formed his government in 1905 and in 1909 granted Asquith the same right when the Budget was rejected by the Lords. There is no example of a dissolution having been refused to an incoming Prime Minister by a British Sovereign in well over 100 years.

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Needs of blind phone users

From the Director General of the Royal National Institute for the Blind

Sir, The Royal National Institute for the Blind is concerned that the special needs of blind telephone users, including blind office workers, should not be overlooked in the Telecommunications Bill when it is discussed in Committee in the House of Lords on May 5.

The Bill provides fairly wide-ranging powers to meet the needs of disabled telephone subscribers, but over 1,200 blind people earn their living as telephonists, using adapted switchboards with pulsing pins or synthetic speech instead of flashing lights and digital displays. Many more blind office workers, such as secretaries, have to use multi-line telephones.

Privatisation of the telecommunications industry is likely to mean that more manufacturers, both British and foreign, will be marketing new equipment in the UK. We believe that it is essential to help so many blind workers to keep their jobs that the Telecommunications Bill should be amended to include in particular in the definition of a consumer disabled people who use telecommunications services or equipment at work.

We do not feel that the Bill, as it stands at present, gives the Secretary of State and the proposed Director General of the Office of Telecommunications sufficient powers to enforce a requirement that all telephone apparatus sold in the United Kingdom should be readily adaptable to the needs of blind employees.

There are many blind telephonists in other European countries and the Commonwealth. If the need for adaptability is taken into account at the design stage, there should be little or no additional cost. Indeed, British manufacturers should find such a requirement a sales aid rather than a hindrance.

The Royal National Institute for the Blind is concerned, too, that, to meet the needs of blind people and other disabled groups, telephone operator services, including the directory inquiry service, should continue to be freely available.

I hope that readers in a position to do so will support the amendments to the Bill designed to meet these points when they come up in the House of Lords.

Yours faithfully,

E. J. VENN, Director General, Royal National Institute for the Blind.

224 Great Portland Street, W1.

April 28.

Special Commissioners

From Mr C. W. Koenigsberger

Sir, The Finance Bill contains the welcome reform whereby the Special Commissioners will in future be appointed by the Lord Chancellor instead of by the Treasury. This change underlines their independence and the judicial nature of their functions. It is therefore the more remarkable that the procedural rules for which the Bill also provides are to be made by the Board of Inland Revenue, a body which is a party in virtually every dispute determined by this tribunal.

Notwithstanding that the rules

may be vetted by the Council on Tribunals before being submitted to Parliament, it is surely a retrograde step to make it appear as if the Board of Inland Revenue exercises supervisory functions over the Special Commissioners.

I can see no good reason why this tribunal should not make its own rules, but if for any reason that suggestion is unacceptable the Lord Chancellor is obviously the appropriate person to do so.

Yours faithfully,

C. W. KOENIGSBERGER, 10 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

April 24.

Where credit's due

From Mr Mike Faber

Sir, A main pleasure of following cricket in the newspapers is the comprehensive picture of play given by the scorecard. But there is one type of event, of increasing influence, in the description of which the scorecard is defective. That is the run out.

No matter how brilliant the feat, no matter how decisive the incident, the perpetrator of it remains anonymous. It is as if the early designer of the scorecard assumed that run outs only happened through the idiocy of the batsmen, and the less said about that the better.

Could you not persuade your Cricket Correspondent to take the lead in remedying this defect?

The convention, "RO Parker Gould", or "RO Parker" if he did it unassisted, would convey over a season lots more information at the cost of little extra space.

And while he is about it, he should right the wrong hitherto inflicted on the substitute fielder. "Ct sub" is unworthy. Your Football Correspondent does not treat Mr Fairclough of Liverpool, that way. "Ct Smith" would do it.

Yours etc,

MIKE FABER, Swarborough Manor, Swarborough, Lewes, Sussex.

April 26.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CND and Prague peace conference

From Mr E. P. Thompson

Sir, The silly season is on us. It is said that employees of the Ministry of Defence have assisted in the ransacking of the private histories of citizens on the national council of CND in order to issue to the public the shattering news that this one is a "dedicated Bennite" and these others resigned from the Communist Party as recently as 28 years ago. I did not know that this is what we paid public servants to do.

Last week I learned that Mr Heseltine had been on the transatlantic phone to the Secretary for Defence of the most powerful nation on earth and had warned him that "Government" would be embarrassed if he were to fulfil a debating engagement in the Oxford Union at the end of May. As a result Mr Caspar Weinberger agreed, with some reluctance, to withdraw.

This was, in an old-fashioned view, an extraordinary and improper intervention by a minister of government in the affairs of a private society – and also, since the debate was to be televised, in the affairs of the media. But we have to remember that Mr Heseltine is an enthusiast for "modernisation".

And now we have our own odd editorial (April 21) on the decision of CND's national council to send observers to the forthcoming conference in Prague. You take this as evidence of communist "entryism" in CND, whose positions you go on to describe as being "identical with those of the extremist left in Britain".

Of course, if you (and Mr Heseltine) redefine the "extremist left" in such a way as to take in half the Liberal Party, all the Labour Party, ecologists, most church and clergymen, a great part of the medical and academic professions, and much more, then you must be right. And it follows that our modernisers will be finding a great deal of fresh work for the phone-tappers and security services.

I was one of the large minority on CND's national council who opposed CND's attendance at Prague. But I can assure Mr Ray Whitney (April 25) that the council's proceedings are in no way "mysterious". There was a fair and open debate. And the council took the view, by a small majority, that a boycott would be counter-productive, and that whatever the formal proceedings might be like, there would be opportunities to

country, accepted by most of the political institutions, is to arrange for campaigns in each constituency during a general election to be concentrated into three weeks or less. Indeed, the amounts of money, limited by law, for the election expenses of each candidate seem designed to cater for this arrangement.

It may be argued that we should change to a better system. Constitutional changes could be made through Parliament, including the adoption of a fixed period between general elections leading to long campaigning approaches to polling day. ("Fever" might then be replaced by chronic indigestion.) Until such a change is made, accusations of irresolution or dithering because the options are being kept open, are entirely misplaced.

Yours faithfully,

CAMPBELL OF CROY, House of Lords.

April 26.

Parliamentary terms

From Mr Philip Wright

Sir, In the nine general elections since 1950 the periods between the announcement and polling day were less than six weeks. In six of them, the notice given was less than five weeks. On the occasion when a Prime Minister decided to make a statement that a general election would not be held in the autumn, it was done (by Mr Callaghan in September, 1978) at the same kind of notice, within six weeks of the expected polling day in October.

Under this system of ours, which has the virtue of avoiding long election campaigns, a Prime Minister should not be expected to announce a general election months beforehand, as has been suggested in some quarters earlier this year. Once the timing of a general election was certain, campaigning would inevitably begin soon afterwards.

The present practice in this

trigger off major changes in government policy?

Yours faithfully,

PHILIP WRIGHT, 8 Stour Avenue, Southwell, Nottinghamshire, Middessex.

April 26.

Teachers' pay

From Mr Peter Tarrant

Sir, I write to give wholehearted support to your first leader's timely appeal (April 12) for teachers' salary scales to be more directly linked to the quality of their teaching performance.

Such a reform is long overdue because the present system of scale posts, devised for different times and different circumstances, has been overtaken by the passage of time, and is now too cumbersome, limited and inflexible to deal effectively and fairly with contemporary requirements.

Standards should be drawn up by the DES and other relevant bodies and the Government should make additional funds available for a nationally-allocated "quality award" for every teacher who reaches the grade. Three or four levels would be appropriate, teachers would be "Molted" periodically, and the award withdrawn if the relevant standard were not reached.

I would not want the awards only to be made to those gifted teachers who "can work miracles with a big class crammed into a Nissen hut with a blackboard and chalk". The entertainers play. A gifted teacher may well have a less flamboyant, less immediately striking style.

Yours sincerely,

PETER TARRANT, Headmaster, Southgate School, Sussex Way, Cockfosters, Hertfordshire.

April 26.

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THE ARTS

Radio
An impressive Capital gain

Whatever Capital plans to do to retain its present London contract is unlikely to become clear much before the new eight-year period opens in October. The same goes for the hopeful bidder, Metropolitan. But at least an incumbent has something already on view and it would be amazing if current output had not to some extent been planned with half an eye on the good opinion of the IBA.

Thus in the parts of it that interest me, I cannot help noticing that after a very patchy 1982, Capital Playhouse has come back strongly with a new production every month – even if, after one half of an encouraging start in January (Robin Soans's delightful *Not Today, Thank You* was the first part of a double bill), the actual content has been nothing to write home about.

Now comes Robin Blake's new weekly series of six dramatised features, *Tales of a City*. Certainly, if the first programme (The Nun of Kilburn, April 24) is any guide, no one could object if Capital wants to hold this enterprise up in front of its assessors as an example both of good intentions and good performance.

The format was a familiar one for radio: nephew (a monk-historian) visits his elderly aunt in Kilburn Priory where she has resided these last 40 years and she tells him the story of her life. However, all sorts of happy touches rendered this incomparably better than such an outline might suggest. First, the period the old lady could remember had been a stormy one – it included the Peasants' Revolt – and she and her family had witnessed its consequences at first hand; next she was presented as a woman of considerable character who had taken the veil only because, after an apparently affluent father died in heavy debt, she had no alternative.

Thus the rather mild and isolated scream of the girl about to be lynched for murdering her child seemed quite inadequate. So did the visiting itinerant ravers, symbolic of so much sexual danger; the distant song that marked their progress through the village just as the menace of a well-intended male voice choir.

For a more solid sense of danger, tricked out with absurdity, let me refer you to *Coast to Coast* (Radio 4, Sundays) in which that persuasive, broad-caster, Joseph Hone, tells of his attempts to penetrate Zaire by way of the Congo River. The series of 10 talks has six to go; the first four were irresistible.

David Blake

Opera
In the grip of Russian rouletteThe Gambler
Coliseum

The brakes are off, the clutch is out and the gears are racing wildly. Prokofiev finished his opera *The Gambler* just a month before the February Revolution of 1917, and in it produced a work as seething with improbabilities as Leninism, as tottering in imminent collapse as the Tsarist regime. When Dostoevsky wrote his short novel in 1866 he could present gambling as an individual obsession, one whose force and dire consequences he well knew from his own experience. When Prokofiev adapted the book for the operatic stage half a century later, roulette had become the symbol of a collective intoxication that had artists as well as politicians in its grip, above all in Russia.

This madness in *The Gambler* takes effect slowly and insidiously, and it is one of the virtues of David Pountney's production for English National Opera that there is no need to shout at the audience. The play had suffered the fate of all but the most triumphant translations. Sue Bradbury's version has, at least, the sound of life spoken English, while the awful situation Loris depicts of a newly widowed matriarch implacably determined to impose her will on the emotional ferment of her five disagreeable daughters is probably powerful enough to survive a translation into any language.

What did not survive was what I might call the living identity of the play, its existence in English ears as a drama in its own right. Here one followed it but did not feel it. Maybe the direction did not always help, much depends on the contrast between the claustrophobic house and the unseen, but nevertheless pulsing heat and roughness of the village outside.

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The Taming of the
Shrew
Barbican

In a typically stimulating essay in the RSC's programme, Anne Barton builds a scheme for this play that represents Petruchio as "almost a model of intelligence and humanity" who, initially mercenary, breaks down Katherine's neurosis for her own good and finds that he has created a perfect lover and friend. I wish I could believe it.

Barry Kyle's production behaves as though it has proved Mrs Barton's case, but in fact

it has not. Alun Armstrong gives



Graham Clark, wide-eyed and gambling

Opera that the characters behave naturally until forced by the music to do otherwise. One might imagine the piece done with all the perversity of the German expressionist cinema, and though that might suit much of the music better than these stately casino scenes, it would miss the very Prokofiev-like twist of human beings stiffening into caricatures.

At first it seems we are in for a Classical Serial interpretation of the novel. But then at the end of the first act, Alexey's idiotic insult to a German baroness is hideously overplayed by the music and strikingly underlined by the production: I have never before heard anyone sing while performing cartwheels, though of course, Graham Clark's unembarrassed involvement in the central role goes beyond that. This is, indeed, an interpretation to set beside his other recent gambler, Tchaikovsky's Hermann. He reveals a work that becomes as kaleidoscopic and bizarre as *The Love of Three Oranges*, while retaining the grounding in reality that makes it a much more unsettling opera.

John Tomlinson as the General, a much more relaxed, accepting gambler than Alexey at the tables of fate, also takes full advantage of the move from realism into absurdity. His sly perversity and dimness seem first

effectively as his wild-eyed craziness at the roulette table, and it is right that he should touch softness only when, with flitting inward-head voice, he loses himself in manic fantasy.

The development in Alexey from ironist to madman is facilitated by music which is so often at once satirically sharp-edged and utterly bizarre, not the least pleasure of the evening

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The development in Alexey from ironist to madman is facilitated by music which is so often at once satirically sharp-edged and utterly bizarre, not the least pleasure of the evening

is that of hearing an unfamiliar and wholly-remarkable score leap out of the pit under the direction of the young Romanian conductor, Christian Badea. He reveals a work that becomes as kaleidoscopic and bizarre as *The Love of Three Oranges*, while retaining the grounding in reality that makes it a much more unsettling opera.

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Doubt on Bellair's success

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, April 25. Dealings end, May 6. Contango Day, May 8. Settlement Day, May 16.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price	Open Price	Change Pence
Adelphi Industries 25p Ord (140)	124	123	-1
Amesbury Industries 25p Ord (112)	123	122	-1
Bentons Cigars 10p Ord (10)	123	122	-1
Datateam 50p Ord (180)	213	212	-1
Granger Trust 25p Ord (4)	90	90	0
IBI 10p Ord (10)	90	90	0
Intervention Video 50p Ord (a)	90	90	0
Media Electronics 20p Ord (50)	130	129	-1
Microsite 10p Ord (94)	145	144	-1
Minicars 10p Ord (16)	145	144	-1
Mincars 10p Ord (5)	145	144	-1
Octopus Publishing 25p Ord (4)	355	354	-1
Sinclair W. 25p Ord (7)	130	129	-1
Strikes Rests 10p Ord (4)	130	129	-1
Superdrug 10p Ord (175)	260	259	-1
Television Services 10p Ord (10a)	25	25	0
United Pictures 10p Ord (72)	130	129	-1
Yesterdays 10p Ord (10)	130	129	-1

Share price in parentheses £ United Securities

1982/83	High Low Stock	Price Chg pence	Div Yield	Per cent Red
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BRITISH FUNDS

1982/83	High Low Stock	Price Chg pence	Div Yield	Per cent Red
100% 55	Exch 10p 1988	97	97	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 1989	107	107	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 1990	117	117	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 1991	127	127	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 1992	137	137	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 1993	147	147	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 1994	157	157	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 1995	167	167	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 1996	177	177	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 1997	187	187	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 1998	197	197	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 1999	207	207	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2000	217	217	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2001	227	227	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2002	237	237	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2003	247	247	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2004	257	257	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2005	267	267	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2006	277	277	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2007	287	287	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2008	297	297	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2009	307	307	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2010	317	317	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2011	327	327	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2012	337	337	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2013	347	347	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2014	357	357	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2015	367	367	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2016	377	377	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2017	387	387	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2018	397	397	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2019	407	407	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2020	417	417	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2021	427	427	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2022	437	437	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2023	447	447	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2024	457	457	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2025	467	467	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2026	477	477	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2027	487	487	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2028	497	497	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2029	507	507	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2030	517	517	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2031	527	527	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2032	537	537	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2033	547	547	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2034	557	557	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2035	567	567	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2036	577	577	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2037	587	587	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2038	597	597	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2039	607	607	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2040	617	617	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2041	627	627	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2042	637	637	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2043	647	647	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2044	657	657	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2045	667	667	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2046	677	677	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2047	687	687	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2048	697	697	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2049	707	707	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2050	717	717	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2051	727	727	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2052	737	737	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2053	747	747	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2054	757	757	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2055	767	767	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2056	777	777	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2057	787	787	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2058	797	797	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2059	807	807	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2060	817	817	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2061	827	827	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2062	837	837	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2063	847	847	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2064	857	857	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2065	867	867	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2066	877	877	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2067	887	887	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2068	897	897	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2069	907	907	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2070	917	917	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2071	927	927	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2072	937	937	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2073	947	947	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2074	957	957	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2075	967	967	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2076	977	977	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2077	987	987	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2078	997	997	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2079	1007	1007	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2080	1017	1017	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2081	1027	1027	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2082	1037	1037	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2083	1047	1047	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2084	1057	1057	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2085	1067	1067	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2086	1077	1077	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2087	1087	1087	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2088	1097	1097	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2089	1107	1107	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2090	1117	1117	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2091	1127	1127	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2092	1137	1137	0
100% 55	Exch 10p 2093	1147		

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4 Valves: How to find a suitable case for holiday treatment; Drink: In The Garden on planning ponds

THE TIMES Saturday

5 Classical records of the month; Critics' choice of Theatres in London and out of town; and Galleries

7,8 Films; Music; Opera; Dance; Chess; Bridge; Family Life and the guide to The Week Ahead

30 APRIL-6 MAY 1983 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Photomontage by Michael Bennett



Tennis serves it up, snooker makes pots out of it and now the oldest strategic game of them all has formed its own Grand Prix. Shirley Caftano reports on this and the battle for the world

Masters of chess

Raymond Chandler described it as the greatest waste of human intelligence outside an advertising agency. Many of Britain's growing number of chess players would cheerfully endorse that assessment of their favourite pastime. For some, though, the growth of chess as a sport and the rewards brought by increased sponsorship can make it seem an attractive investment of mental energy. Of the three or four million in this country who enjoy an occasional game of chess, some 40,000 take it seriously enough to sacrifice frequent evenings to club and league matches. Ten thousand of these form the hard core of dedicated chess addicts who may be seen participating on the circuit of weekend

tournaments known as the Leigh Grand Prix.

A single tournament chess game represents about four hours of intense concentration. In many respects the experience may be likened to that of sitting an examination of the same length. A weekend tournament usually comprises six such examinations crammed into less than 48 hours. A typical schedule begins with one game on the Friday evening, followed by three rounds on the Saturday in an orgy of almost continuous play lasting from breakfast time until midnight. Then up again on Sunday morning for another two bleary-eyed battles.

There can hardly be a more exhausting way to spend a weekend, yet so popular are

Wheel of fortune in the build-up to who will rule the world

A crucial world championship qualifying match earlier this month was decided by the spin of a roulette wheel. After the scheduled 10 chess games were level between Vassily Smyslov of the Soviet Union and West Germany's Robert Hübner. The match went into four games of extra time, but still no result. With a suitable sense of the dramatic, the players and officials adjourned to the casino. Hübner's fortunes were staked on the black numbers, Smyslov's on red. The ball landed in the zero hole. They tried again. *Trois, impair*, and Hübner went out.

The result was a tribute to Smyslov's longevity as much as his luck. He had held the World Championship for a year, a quarter of a century ago. Now 62, he is still a great player, but nobody really expects him to last the course without exhaustion taking its toll. His next opponent will be Zoltan Ribli, a Hungarian grandmaster 30 years his junior.

A match for the World Chess Championship is held every three years. That is the time taken to play the cumbersome series of eliminating contests designed to determine the man best qualified to challenge for the title. Every chess-playing nation is allowed at least one nominee in the early stages of the contest so, in theory at any rate, everyone has a chance to become world champion.

Only the most highly placed in each eliminating event qualify to proceed to the next stage. The last battles are a series of 'candidate' matches'

played among the last eight survivors until only one remains undefeated. He becomes the official challenger for the world-championship. The champion himself remains dignified and aloof from this unseemly competition, saving himself for the gladiatorial showdown with his challenger.

Even before the roulette wheel had reduced the number of candidates to four, many leading grandmasters had been eliminated from the current cycle. A trio of Soviet former world champions - Boris Spassky, Tigran Petrosian and Mikhail Tal - all fell at early fences, as did Jan Timman of the Netherlands, tipped by many as the only Westerner to have a real chance to defeat Karpov.

Interest now centres on Garry Kasparov, the latest Soviet star. Although only 19 years old, Kasparov already has a string of impressive tournament victories to his name. His candidates semi-final match will be against Viktor Korchnoi, *bête noire* of Soviet grandmasters, though at 52 a beast rather long in the tooth by chess-playing standards. Smyslov no doubt considers him still a spring chicken.

The winner of Kortchnoi-Kasparov will be favourite to defeat Smyslov or Ribli and go through to meet Anatoly Karpov in 1984. If Kasparov overcomes the hurdles a thrilling contest is in prospect. Both he and the present champion were pupils of Mikhail Botvinnik, first Russian World Champion and patriarch of Soviet Chess. Their styles, however, are quite distinct. Karpov, supreme technician and master strategist, will face the practical optimism and volatile brilliance of his young challenger.

such events that there are now more than 200 weekend tournaments each year at different locations throughout the country. The atmosphere is strained but friendly, despite the intense level of competition and often cramped playing conditions.

Chessboards are lined up on trestle tables, under which contestants jostle for leg room. The only sounds are the ticking of chess clocks, reminding players that they have only a limited time in which to execute their moves, and the suritations of shuffling chessmen as whispered analysis diagnoses the causes of defeat in already finished games. Occasionally the tension produces a harsher pite for silence from one whose game is still in progress.

The rigorous schedule is a test of stamina as well as chess skill and may explain why chess has become very much a young man's game. Anyone over the age of 30 is liable to be described as a veteran in the chess press. Beyond that, it is difficult to characterize the typical weekend chess warrior. They are predominantly middle-class, university educated and male. Although the growing popularity of chess seems to be quickly eroding the class and education barriers, the sexual stereotype is more firmly entrenched.

Nobody is quite sure why the best female chessplayers have never reached the standards of their male counterparts. Sociological, physiological and psychological explanations have all been advanced, but none less convincing than the Freudian theory: a player's strongest ally is his queen (mother-figure) which helps in his aim of slaying the enemy king (patricide); such an Oedipal urge is a male preserve; ergo, women can't play chess.

I don't believe it and neither do our top women players, who have recently taken the first step towards equality by showing an increasing tendency to reject participation in women-only events in favour of unisex competition. The old effeminate mantle of the British Ladies' Chess Association was thrown off last year with a change of name; the new "macho" image is represented by the British Women's Chess Association. Chessmen beware.

For the time being, however, the leading male players take home most of the cash prizes in weekend tournaments offered by local sponsors. First prize may be anything between £100 and £1,000, but the points scored in each event also count towards a player's total in the Leigh Grand Prix. At the end of each year, the best overall performance earns the title of Grand Prix Champion and a bonus of £2,000. More than half a million man-hours will have been expended in this quest for grand prix chess honours. The sponsors, Leigh Interests of Walsall, are a company which specializes in international waste disposal. Raymond Chandler would no doubt have considered that most appropriate.

For the majority of grand prix pretenders, the principal attraction of a tournament is simply the opportunity to spend a weekend thinking of nothing but chess. For some the prizes are more important, but the competition is hard. About 50 chessplayers in this country are trying to make a living out of the game, and the total amount of prize money on offer is no more than £50,000. Most will supplement their earnings by teaching or writing. Only the very best can command the international invitations and appearance fees which will provide a steady income from competitive play.

The long grind of weekend tournaments has become the apprenticeship which any young British player must serve before he enters the ranks of the internationals. Then he can dispense with the exhausting frivolity of three games a day. International competitions are never played at a rate less than a single game each day.

Excise. After a long battle, it was finally ruled that chess tournaments could not qualify for the same VAT exemptions as other "real" sports.

Even if not truly a sport, chess can certainly claim to be one of the most international of all competitive activities. Until 1980, it was proudly maintained that chess was played in every country on earth. The Ayatollah Khomeini spoiled all that by banning it in Iran. He went further in his condemnation than Raymond Chandler by claiming that chess damages the ability to remember and may even cause destruction of the brain. And what is more it causes people to think in a fractious and warlike manner. Some think that the Ayatollah's low opinion of chess may have stemmed from the knowledge that its very name was derived from the word "shah".

Outside Iran, international chess thrives as never before, all under the auspices of the world governing body for the game, the Fédération Internationale des Echecs (FIDE). The FIDE

computers hold records of all international events, which form the basis for calculation of an international rating list. Every six months a new list appears, giving a good indication of the relative strengths of all practising players. On the

basis of tournament results, the seeds of Russian world chess domination had taken firm root.

The rest of the world has taken a long time to catch up, but the last decade has seen an unparalleled chess boom in the West. When Bobby Fischer defeated Boris Spassky for the world championship in Reykjavik in 1972, the unpredictable behaviour of the eccentric American brought chess into the headlines. Interest in the game increased dramatically, nowhere more so than in England, where chess club membership figures trebled immediately.

In pre-Fischer days this country had no Grandmasters and any thoughts of large-scale chess sponsorship were only a

continued on page four

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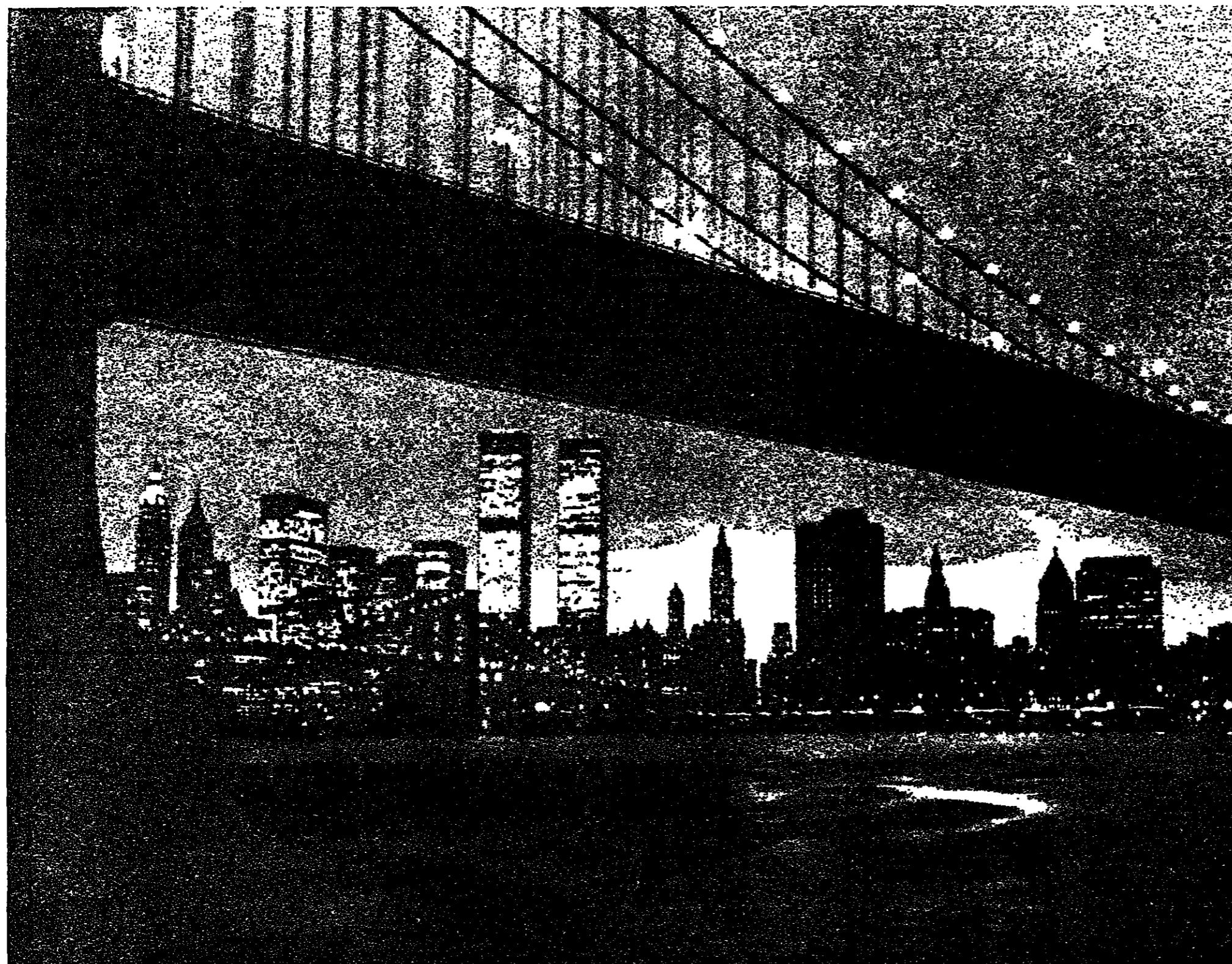
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Christopher Portway goes far north in the spirit of adventure

Call of the wild on Alaska's ghostly highway

North America may not seem a likely source of the more exotic of homo sapiens but up in the far north of that continent they have a character all their own. What is more, so thin on the ground are they that their mere presence affords the treasure of companionship.

Canada's Yukon province is larger than Germany yet has a population about that of Bury St Edmunds; its Northwest Territories are larger than Europe with a population no more than that of a largish English village, so you can see what I mean. The vast land mass of Alaska is home for less than 230,000; a fraction of the population of just one of the larger American cities.

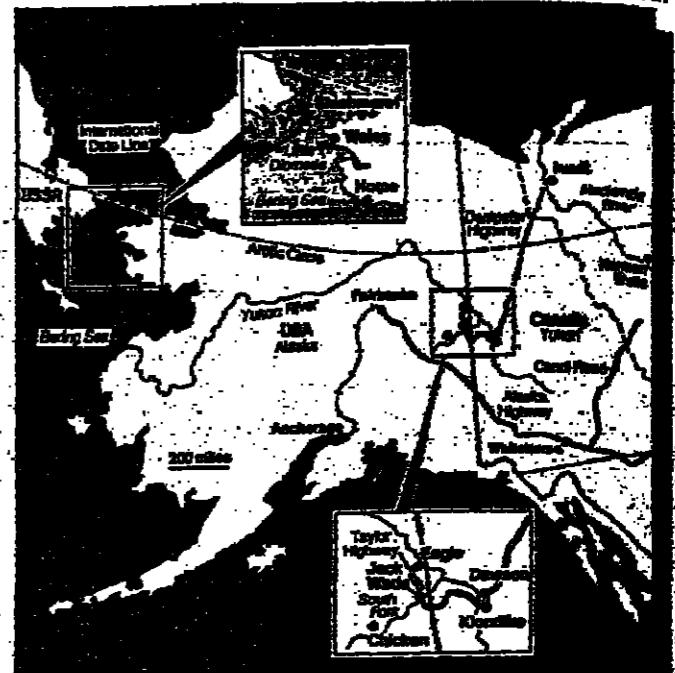
It is this remoteness that draws me there again and again. In such territory the inherent goodness of our fellow men and women is an attribute born of compassion as well as survival. Here people can be enjoyed and, what is more, they can enjoy you.

I remember my first Alaskan trip. I had been led to believe that Anchorage was a city of wooden shacks but I found it was a plush metropolis of wide modern streets and it had a drug problem. But if the old frontier

is missing in Anchorage it is to be found in plenty a little further on.

Alaska throws up unique obstacles to mankind and he in turn invariably finds novel ways of surmounting them. Farmers and benders must compress their year's work into brief summers, provisions have to be shipped thousands of miles and all Alaskans live with the threat of earthquakes like the brutal one that struck on Good Friday 1964. They have to fly over roadless terrain, take to their boats despite bone-chilling water and exist in temperatures that we in Britain can hardly imagine. Above all Alaska is a land of challenge, holding beneath the surface of its permafrost and waters the vast wealth which first attracted the scruffy, hot-eyed miners in 1896.

Alaska's northernmost "city" is Nome on the west coast, facing the Bering Sea just below the Arctic Circle. Following the discovery of gold on the beaches in 1898, it boomed into a gold rush camp of tents and frame buildings. Once the community numbered 40,000. Today it is less than 4,000. The gold rush has passed and mining is on the decline but an aura of those



glamorous days still lingers on.

Towing the ramshackle town is like sightseeing in a junkyard with the tottering houses surrounded by a collection of pipes-boilers, tin cans, old cars and discarded ice-boxes—all a treasure trove of vital spares. Telegraph poles and television aerials lean at drunken angles for nothing holds up for long on the shifting permafrost. Accommodation is scarce and expensive but this is dormitory space in a church hall for as much as you care to give or in the homes of Nome's good citizens who look upon a guest as a privilege.

Nome is the centre for visiting Arctic Alaska and it is the gritty little British Isles' aircraft and pilots, some of Eskimo stock, of Munz Northern Airlines that provide the transportation since the few roads go nowhere. These "bush pilots" depart daily for the many tiny communities, winging their way with passengers and stores across the tundra and over the Bering Sea. Here is the perfect opportunity to see the Eskimos as they live from day to day, at home and at work. Visitors are warmly welcomed upon a guest as a privilege.

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The desolation is awe-inspiring. I flew beside my ever-smiling, ever-joking pilot to Little Diomede Island, just 22 miles from Siberia, where I could look into tomorrow across the International Date Line, to Shishmaref to watch women making the mukluks and parkas which are *de rigueur* wear in such climates, and to Wales, the westernmost point on the North American continent.

On another of my visits to the northern American wilderness I drove a small Japanese car the full length of the Alaska Highway, further in fact, since I started from Edmonton. My companion was a Dakotan buffalo farmer, a spirited youngster who had joined me from a village near Fargo. Two thousand miles of highway with, from Kilometre 0 at Dawson Creek to Kilometre 2446 at Fairbanks, long rough gravel sections interspersed with potholed paving in the vicinity of the few townships.

The Alaska Highway is no longer classed as a "wilderness road" but there are plenty that are. One is the Dempster Highway of 725 kilometres which meanders its empty way across the silent terrain from Yukon's Dawson to remote Inuvik in the Northwest Territories. En route there is only one filling station and the road surface is made of volcanic chips that will lacerate a tire at speeds above 30 miles an hour.

The "Trail of '98" leads northeast and by driving the first portion of the Klondike Loop road, then continuing along the grandiosely named Taylor Highway, you will pass a resurrected gold rush camp with new blood coursing through veins that have been dead for decades. At the end of the road, no more than a stony track through endless pine forest, lies Eagle, another gold rush settlement on the banks of the Yukon River. Here again you can smell the lure of gold but around Jack Wade junction the roadside is littered with old dredges and the bones of mining machinery. Among these relics of the past, shy of prying eyes—particularly those of the income-tax inspector—are the modest encampments of today's prospectors.

On the South Fork River, near the hamlet of Chicken, I came across Joe O'Balley, who was big-hearted enough to welcome my company. I tried



Travel
notes

Conducts Munz Northern
Airlines, PO Box 790, Nome,
Alaska 99762, USA; White Pass &
Yukon Railway, PO Box 21971,
Seattle, WA 98171, USA; Canadian
Government Office of Tourism,
Canada House, Trafalgar Square,
London SW1, United States Travel
Services, 22 Savile Row, London
W1; Railways of Adventure,
100 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AA
(operator of rail treks);
From Twickenham Travel Ltd,
Hampton Road, Twickenham,
Middlesex.

Guide books: *Alaska from Alaska*,
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REVIEW Classical records of the month

A resolute hand for Brahms's best and worst

The box of big Brahms choral works conducted by Giuseppe Sinopoli fulfills my hopes of its being a mighty, off-centre contribution to the monumental complete recorded edition from Deutsche Grammophon. It is an odd collection of pieces. It includes what is quite the worst Brahms I have yet heard, the *Triumphed*, he wrote, to celebrate the satisfactory conclusion of the Franco-Prussian War and the foundation of the German Empire: it is as noisy and unthinking as anybody's jingism.

But of course there is also that symphonic masterpiece the *German Requiem*, and its gathering of snailites, in addition to the curious dramatic cantata *Rinaldo*.

This lengthily indulged scene from *Tasso* is often quoted as Brahms's nearest approach to opera, but it is much more interestingly his nearest approach to Beethoven; and it is significant that his thoughts should have strayed in that direction when he was on unfamiliar ground. René Kollo as the tenor soloist brings with him an unavoidable aura of *Tristan*, but the work's true home is declared in the orchestral performance under Sinopoli, typically resolute and full-bodied.

He sounds, though, a lot more interested in Brahms's thoughts on mortality, and no doubt it was the vivid imagination he displays here that recommended him as the man to take charge of this enterprise. The choice of Prague forces is more curious, but the Prague Philharmonic Choir and the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra are well prepared to respond to the challenge of making Brahms's deathbed scenes as graphic and gripping as, say, Richard Strauss's or Mahler's.

Take the opening of the *Alte Rhapsody*. The first big orchestral attack is a blow to the solar plexus, and thenceforth Sinopoli prefers physical descriptiveness to emotionalism or pure symphonic growth. There is a sense of faltering breath, unsteady movement and failing pulse, all conveyed nevertheless



Classical arrangement (clockwise from top left): Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau, Neville Marriner, Vladimir Ashkenazy and Mstislav Rostropovich

Arresting insights into Tchaikovsky's more serious songs

Tchaikovsky wrote more than 100 songs, most of which are still little known, though Söderström and Ashkenazy's first volume last year started a valuable recording project on its way. Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau has surprised us by adding his voice to a catalogue which also includes Gedda, Sonzay and Ghiaurov. He wisely focuses on 17 earlier examples of Tchaikovsky's miniature melodramas and laments rather than on the lighter lyrical and folk songs, and performs them with an idiomatic richness of expression and a generally firm, if not always innovative grasp of the inflection of word and note.

His accompanist, Albert Reimann, plays with equal ardour and conviction: the fact that these songs are called *lieder* on the sleeve is not without significance, but the empathy of the two artists, epitomized by the tiny "Don't leave me" and their way with the indignant Slav harmonies of "Not a sound", brings fresh, often arresting insight.

Vladimir Ashkenazy shows a similar temperamental sympathy in his performance of Tchaikovsky's "Dumka" in a nicely varied Russian piano recital. It also includes a bracing reading of a Prelude and Fugue by Tchaikovsky's champion, Sergey Taneyev, and two short lollipops by Liadov and Borodin, while the entire first side is devoted to Mysorynsky's "Promenades at an Exhibition".

Ashkenazy's firm-stepping vigour in the "Promenades" gives a sense of joyful anticipation to a vividly imagined and brightly recorded gallery: conducting

Tchaikovsky: Lieder Fischer-Dieskau/Reimann (Philips 6514 115)

Russian Piano Music Vladimir Ashkenazy (Decca SKDL 7624/Cassette KSKDC 7624)

Chopin: Piano works Vol XIII Ashkenazy (Decca SKDL 7584/Cassette KSKDC 7584)

Brahms: Rhapsodies, waltzes, piano pieces Bishop-Kovacevich (Philips 6514/Cassette 7337 225)

Brahms: The Cello Sonatas Rostropovich/Sérkin (DG 2532 073/Cassette 3302 073)

and making his own orchestral realizations has enabled him to recreate afresh the inner voices and pulses within each piece.

Ashkenazy's thirteenth volume of Chopin has also just been released and includes two

Compositions by another name sound just as sweet

Wassenaer (attrib Pergolesi): Concerto Armonico 1-6 Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields/Neville Marriner (Argo ZRDL 1002/cassette KZKDC 1002)

Wassenaer (attrib Pergolesi): Concerti Armonici 1-6, Pergolesi: Concerto in B flat for violin, Concerto a cinque Pina Carrillo/Music (Philips 6785 163)

Stravinsky Pulcinella (complete ballet) Yvonne Kenny, Robert Tear, Robert Lloyd, Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields/Neville Marriner (ASD 4313/cassette TCCASD 43132)

but the record companies take the attitude of eighteenth-century publishers, and still emblazon Pergolesi's name large on their covers. (Wassenaer does not get a mention on Argo's cover, though he is credited in the sleeve-note.) The change of authorship does not alter the fact that these are wonderfully attractive pieces, suave and gentle in their melodic flow, a touch awkward in their counterpart — or perhaps that is just being wise after the event — but distinctively rich and varied in their scoring for strings.

Neither of these recordings appears to take any notice of the newly discovered text of the music, which has some small changes and extra ornamentation; the Academy use a largish

So now there seems to be a move to re-record the works

to be published very reluctantly, on condition his name was not used.

Now the musicologist Albert Dunning has tracked down the real composer, a noble dilettante by the name of Ulrich Wilhelm van Wassenaer, who had a distinguished diplomatic career and spent some time at the glittering musical court of Düsseldorf. Dunning found a handwritten copy of the music with an autograph note by Wassenaer which explains that they were written for concerts at The Hague, and that he allowed them to be published very reluctantly, on condition his name was not used.

Neither of these recordings

appears to take any notice of the newly discovered text of the music, which has some small changes and extra ornamentation; the Academy use a largish

group and emphasize tutti-soli contrasts, while I Musici sound as if they are using one player to a part.

There is much more pleasure to be had from Marriner's sophisticated performance, in which speeds are well-judged and the string-playing has predictable smoothness, but I hope that now Holland has acquired an important composer a Dutch band will record these pieces in their original versions with period instruments.

Neville Marriner's band is far better suited to the transposition from the eighteenth to the twentieth century found in *Pulcinella*. The Academy's old recording was splendid, and this matches it in verve and pungency while surpassing its sound quality. Robert Tear is an edgy tenor, and Yvonne Kenny: Robert Lloyd is a little too boomy as the bass. But the voices scarcely matter beside the elating manipulation of rhythm and harmony with which Stravinsky massacred his originals — which the sleeve-note is still convinced are by Pergolesi. In fact, the latter provided fodder for only a couple of movements, and the rest may be credited to such unlikely characters as Domenico Gallo.

Nicholas Kenyon

ing here together, their intimate union of weight, timbre and temper makes us aware first of the music itself and only second of the instruments that play it. The *O* Minor is a subtle, mellow performance, its first movement long and slow to mature, its final biting deep into part-writing too often merely pecked at. Neither cello nor piano is afraid to go to the limits of its own potential in the *F* Major, here, in particular, a remarkable flexibility brings new muscle and meaning to Brahms's cross-rhythms.

Hilary Finch

NEXT WEEK: Richard Williams reviews a remarkable series of jazz reissues from the 1950s and 1960s, recreated in their original form.

Young man goes West to kill dragons

Steven Berkoff is surprised and delighted by his play *West*, which opens on Tuesday at the Donmar Warehouse after a week of previews. "I am amazed by it. It is a quite extraordinary play, considering that it was written three or four years ago."

Mr Berkoff is not hindered by false modesty in discussing the work, which he is directing after believing that it would never be performed. *West* was written as a sequel to *East*, his strong and successful evocation of life in the slums of the East End of London, which opened in 1975 and was subsequently performed at four theatres in London.

West failed to find a director after its commissioning by the BBC and before other plans could be made for it, Berkoff was busy with his new play.

Since then he has written and acted in other works including *Decadence* at the Arts Theatre, has toured widely, and recently played a Russian villain in the new Bond film *Octopussy*.

West with its subtle *Welcome Back to Dalston Junction*, involves the characters from *East* and like the earlier play fuses East End vernacular with Shakespearean verse, telling of the gangster heroes of Hoxton and Stamford Hill.

This sequel, says Berkoff, is about aspiration: the title refers to going to the West End and recalls the traditional exhortation to the ambitious young man: "Go west young man".

"This is a play for heroes, symbolized in the character of Mike. He is a hero fighting like Beowulf against the dragon Grendel. He is fighting against meanness and cowardice."

Berkoff here announces he is adopting his Thatcher-criticizing wife. "Thatcherism is the dragon, attacking idealism, convincing the peace women that it should be supporting them. The state we live in worships meanness."

In *West*, Mike's fight against physical fear is facing the monstrous Hoxton gang. Disastrously, Berkoff says, *West* is not an overtly political play.

In *East*, Berkoff played the hero-Mike. He was tempted to play him again, but says *West* is a complicated play to direct, and that anyway he needs to stand aside from acting once in every three or four plays. Instead Mike is to be played by Rory Edwards, who has appeared in Berkoff's work before and is "the only actor who could play the part better than me".

Christopher Warman



Critics' choice

ANOTHER COUNTRY: Queen's (734 1186). Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 8.30pm; matinées Wed at 8pm and Sat at 8.30pm.

NOISES OFF: Sweeney (536 5885). Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 8pm and 8.30pm; matinées Wed at 8pm; matinées Sat for 10 years.

CRYSTAL CLEAR: Wyndham (536 3028). Mon-Fri at 8.15pm; Sat at 8.30pm; matinées Wed at 8pm and 8.30pm; matinées Sat for 10 years.

THE RIVALS: Oliver (525 2222). Mon-Fri at 7.15pm, May 4 at 8pm.

EDMUND KEAN: Criterion (536 2222).

THE DARK: Jenny Agutter as Grace in *The Body*, Nick Darkie's black comedy set in a Cornish village; At The Pit (628 8795).

ME AND MY SHADOW: Steven Berkoff's (536 2238). Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 8.30pm and 8.45pm; matinées Thurs at 8pm; Friday at 8.30pm; matinées Sat at 8pm.

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IN THE DARK: Jenny Agutter as Grace in *The Body*, Nick Darkie's black comedy set in a Cornish village; At The Pit (628 8795).

Out of Town

Performance times may vary over the Bank Holiday period. Check before going using the telephone numbers given.

BELFAST: Lyric Players (0222 600061). The Hidden Curriculum by Graham Reid, Daily at 8pm.

BIRMINGHAM: Repertory (021 223 4455). The American Clock by Arthur Miller, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 8pm and 8.30pm; matinées Wed at 8pm.

BIRKBECK: The Real Thing by Peter Hall, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 8pm and 8.30pm; matinées Wed at 8pm.

BIRMINGHAM: Repertory Studio (021 223 4455). The American Clock by Arthur Miller, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 8pm and 8.30pm; matinées Wed at 8pm.

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VLADIMIR ASHKENAZY
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Ravel: Piano Concerto in G
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The concert by the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra has been cancelled owing to the serious illness of Maestro Giulini

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THURSDAY NEXT 5 MAY at 7.45 pm.

CHRISTIAN BLACKSHAW

piano

SCHUBERT: Allegro in C minor D.915.

MOZART: Sonata in A minor K.310.

SCHUMANN: Fantasy in C. Op. 17 £1.50, £2.20, £3.30, £4.40, £5.50 from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents

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MONDAY 16 MAY at 7.45 pm.

ACADEMY OF LONDON

Berkeley 80th Birthday Concert

MOZART: Adagio and Fugue in C minor, K.346

Haydn: Organ Concerto in E flat, No. 1, Op. 10

Haydn: Organ Concerto in E flat, No. 2, Op. 10

Haydn: Organ Concerto in E flat, No. 3, Op. 10

Haydn: Organ Concerto in E flat, No. 4, Op. 10

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Haydn: Organ Concerto in E flat, No. 39, Op. 10

THE WEEK AHEAD

Today

MOTORCYCLING: The Marlboro Transatlantic Trophy held over three days in Britain is part of the match challenge series between Britain and the United States. Barry Sheene won five out of the six races last year, making Britain the winner, and he is in the team again, but America has strengthened its team and is the favourite this year. Outton Park, Cheshire (082921 301), practising from Sun. Tomorrow the racing is at Shettleston, Norfolk (095 387 903); Monday at Branksome Hatch, Kent (047 872331).

CRICKET: For the first time a cricket takes advantage of the May Bank Holiday for the opening series of the County Championship sponsored by Schweppes. Today: Middlesex champion meets Essex at Lord's and Leicestershire, last season's runners-up, meet Hampshire at Leicester. Other matches are at Derby, Old Trafford, Trent Bridge, the Oval, Edgbaston and Worcester. Play continues in all eight championship matches tomorrow and Monday. Further matches begin on Wednesday.

LANDSCAPE ARTISTS: The Arts Council exhibition "Landscape in Britain 1850-1950" features the work of 200 artists, from Victorian painters and English Impressionists to Paul Nash, Edward Burra and Stanley Spencer. British City Museum and Art Gallery, Queen's Road, Bristol (0272 299771). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm. Free. Until June 4, then at Stoke-on-Trent Museum and Art Gallery, June 11-July 16 and the Mappin Art Gallery, Sheffield, July 23-Aug 23.

NATIONAL HORSERACING MUSEUM: The Queen opens this new museum set in the home of English horse racing. A permanent exhibition tells the story of horse racing and includes loan exhibits from Sandringham provided by The Queen, the skeleton of Eclipse from the Natural History Museum and on public show for the first time and Fred Archer's travelling bag. The audio-visual gallery has regular screenings of great races, past and present, and the opening temporary exhibition is of nineteenth and twentieth-century posters for race meetings. National Horseracing Museum, 99 High Street, Newmarket, Suffolk (0386 657333). The Queen arrives at 11.30am for the opening ceremony at noon. Museum open to the public from tomorrow. Tues-Sat and bank holidays, 10am-5pm; Sun 2-5pm. Admission 80p, children and pensioners 40p.

2,000 GUINEAS: The first colts classic of the season. Champion trainer Harry Cecil and his stable jockey Lester Piggott team up with Dales (owned by Lord Howard de Walden) who was impressive last season, winning the Middle Park Stakes and the Dewhurst Stakes. Goryus who surprisingly trailed in last in the Dewhurst, is also an interesting candidate. Another fancied horse is Wassi, who won the Greenham Stakes at Newbury recently in good style. Newmarket, Suffolk. 3pm.

SNOOKER: The Embassy World Professional Championship reaches the final stages this weekend, with extensive BBC coverage of the semi-finals and final. Today, BBC1 at Grandstand, 1.05-5.10pm; BBC2 5.05-6.15pm; 9.10-9.45pm; 11.15pm-12.30am. Tomorrow, BBC2 2.2-3.30pm; 8.20-9.15pm; 11.40pm-12.45am. Mon, BBC1 2.05-4.40pm; BBC2 5.30-6.05pm; 7.20-9.30pm; 11.35pm-12.10am.

Chess

Entertaining brevity in bygone Berlin

The Finnish international chess-master, Eero E. Book, who is famous for having lost a beautiful game to Alekhine at Margate in 1938, has the engaging habit of sending me news of chess events in Finland from time to time. I should explain that we have been firm friends ever since I also lost a beautiful game to Alekhine at that same Margate tournament.

Now he has sent me details of a strong international tournament that took place at Helsinki from March 15-27. First prize went to the Swedish grand master Lars Karlsson, who scored 8½ points out of 11. Second with 8 points was our grandmaster, John Nunn, ahead of a number of other fine players, including four grandmasters, the Russian Yuri Balashov, the Hungarian Joseph Pinter and the Finns Rantanen and Westerinen.

Also, aware of my taste for chess history, he has sent me a historical sketch (his own words) of the celebrated Russian player and theoretician Carl Friedrich Jaenisch, who was in fact by birth a Finn (in Vipuri).

In an accompanying letter he says he has often wondered whether Jaenisch conversed with his friend Staunton in English or whether Staunton spoke French. I should explain that the Finn had come to London in 1851 too late to play in the celebrated first international tournament ever but had played, and lost, a match against Staunton.

From his writings it is clear Jaenisch had a mastery of French, but whether he also spoke English I do not know. But there is another point on which I myself seek enlightenment. Book gives Jaenisch's date of birth as April 23, 1813, whereas I, in my encyclopaedia, give it as August 11, 1813, as also do the Italians Chioce and Porreca, in their encyclopaedia. The chess historian, Dr Linder, gives it as April 11, 1813, which, give or take some days having regard to the Gregorian calendar, would seem to support Book's date. Perhaps a reader may have something enlightening to say about all this.

Meanwhile let me heartily recommend a new book in the Pergamon Russian Chess series, entitled *Comprehensive Chess Endings* by Y. Averbakh and V. Chekhov, 213 pages, £12.50. This is Volume 1 and is on

RUGBY CUP FINALS: Leicester are the favourites to beat Bristol in the John Player Cup Final at Twickenham, having won three consecutive years 1979-81. In the Welsh Cup Final at Cardiff, Swansea meet Pontypridd who have reached the final for the first time. Both matches at 3pm. Highlights on BBC2 7.20-8.20pm.

THE KERRYGOLD INTERNATIONAL: Three days of international showjumping lead up to the Kerrygold Cup on Monday, 2.30pm. Top British riders John and Michael Whitaker, Nick Skelton and Harvey Smith will face strong competition from abroad. All England Jumping Course, Hickstead, Sussex (0273 834315). Gates open at 8.30am. Admission to car park today 2-23; tomorrow and Mon £2-24. Admission to arena today £2, tomorrow and Mon £3. BBC coverage throughout: today, BBC1 2.10pm and 2.40pm; tomorrow, BBC2 4.20pm; Mon 1.05-4.40pm; BBC2 11.10-11.35pm.

BAKER'S BRAHMS: Richard Baker presents a profile of the composer in the first of eight programmes celebrating the 150th anniversary of his birth on May 7, 1833. BBC2 8.20-9.10pm. Tomorrow Bracha Eden and Alexander Tamir are the pianists in *Four Hands Play Brahms*, BBC2 7.15-8.15pm. The Gabriell String Quartet give five chamber music recitals from Mon-Fri, beginning on Mon at 10.10pm.

WESTERN AND INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC: The cellist Anup Kumar Biswas, his brother Aloke Biswas and Deepak Choudhury play an unusual programme. After works by Bach, William Walton and Tchaikovsky they play Indian ragas on sitar, tabla and cello. Bharati Vidyashankar, 4a Castleton Road, London W14 (381 3088). 7.30pm.

Tomorrow

MAYFEST: Glasgow's first International Festival of Popular Theatre and Music includes performances by 25 companies from the Americas and West Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East. The festival, the skeleton of Eclipse from the Natural History Museum and on public show for the first time and Fred Archer's travelling bag. The audio-visual gallery has regular screenings of great races, past and present, and the opening temporary exhibition is of nineteenth and twentieth-century posters for race meetings. National Horseracing Museum, 99 High Street, Newmarket, Suffolk (0386 657333). The Queen arrives at 11.30am for the opening ceremony at noon. Museum open to the public from tomorrow. Tues-Sat and bank holidays, 10am-5pm; Sun 2-5pm. Admission 80p, children and pensioners 40p.

2,000 GUINEAS: The first colts classic of the season. Champion trainer Harry Cecil and his stable jockey Lester Piggott team up with Dales (owned by Lord Howard de Walden) who was impressive last season, winning the Middle Park Stakes and the Dewhurst Stakes. Goryus who surprisingly trailed in last in the Dewhurst, is also an interesting candidate. Another fancied horse is Wassi, who won the Greenham Stakes at Newbury recently in good style. Newmarket, Suffolk. 3pm.

ST MARK'S GOSPEL: Alec McCowen gives his last three performances of the season. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191) 3pm. Also June 12, July 3.

NEVER CASTLE COLLECTION: The sale of May 5 and 6 containing superb arms and armour, wares and works of art are on view, together with manuscripts and items of the Renaissance period which will be offered in July. Sotheby's, London W1 (493 8080). 9am-4.30pm. Until May 4.

WHAT DO MPS DO? Richard Mpofu, MP for Chipping Barnet, reveals what his voters think he is there for. Party professionals help first time candidates prepare for the General Election - both in People and Power, BBC1 10.55-11.35pm. On Thursday a new five-part series, *Honourable Members*, begins. It examines the role of MPs and in the first programme, *White, Male and Middle-class* a wide range of MPs tell the story of how they became candidates and were elected. BBC2 6.50-7.15pm. In repertory.

NOEL AND GERTIE: An entertainment by Sheridan Morley drawing on the work and casual writings of Noel Coward and the parts he wrote for Gertrude Lawrence and her autobiography. Starring Joanna Lumley and Simon Cadell, King's Head Upper Street, London N1 (225 1916). Previews from today; dinner 7pm, show starts at 8pm. Press and opening night May 9, dinner 6.30pm, show 7.30pm.

THE TROJAN WAR WILL NOT TAKE PLACE: Grauduro's pre-war play about The Trojan war, in which Hector struggles to preserve peace in the face of jingoistic fervour. Translated by Christopher Fry, directed by Harold Pinter, with Edward De Souza, Annette Crosbie, Ronald Hines, Nicola Pagett, Barry Foster, Brewster Mason, Lytton (922 2252). Previews from today. Daily at 7.45pm; matinée May 7 at 3pm. Opens May 10 at 7.45pm. In repertory.

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NOVA MULHER: The Festival of Brazil begins with a two-part show giving an overall picture of the work of women artists in Brazil.



In action this week: Princess Alice, remembering (Monday); Jenny Lee Smith, competing (Wednesday); Alex McCowen, gospel reading (tomorrow)

HENLEY AHEAD: Booking is now open for Henley Royal Regatta which this year takes place June 30-July 3. Enclosure badges cost £2 per day; tickets for the car park are £4 on June 30 and July 1 and £5 on July 2 and 3. Send details of requirements and a cheque to Henley Royal Regatta, Regatta Headquarters, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

MONDAY:

PRINCESS ALICE REMEMBERS: Russell Hartley at HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester at Kensington Palace. She reminiscences about her eventful life covering her childhood, her years in Kenya and her public service work. BBC2 9.30-10.10pm.

TUESDAY:

SADLER'S WELLS: Dennis Arundel talks about "300 Years at the Wells" in the first of a series of lectures to celebrate Sadler's Wells' tercentenary.

WEDNESDAY: Tomorrow the subject is Joseph Grimaldi, and on Thursday Richard Findlater talks about Lilian Baylis.

THURSDAY: The season usefully reminds us of his earlier achievements, including *Slow Motion* and *Les Carabiniers* which both begin the season today. Everyman Cinema, Hampstead (435 1525).

FRIDAY:

NOEL AND GERTIE: An entertainment by Sheridan Morley drawing on the work and casual writings of Noel Coward and the parts he wrote for Gertrude Lawrence and her autobiography.

SATURDAY:

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today and of Brazilian women artists based in Europe. There are 10 of the former and nine of the latter, among them who cover a wide variety of media. Along with this show is another devoted to Rita Lourenço's colourful paintings "Interpretation of Macau", in which the self-taught artist evokes scenes and images from the legend of the Brazilian folk-hero. Concourse Gallery, Barbican Centre, London EC2 (638 4141). Mon-Sat 9am-1pm, until May 31.

GOLF FOR LADIES: The Ford Ladies Gold Classic is the first major ladies' tournament of the year and has the biggest total prize fund, £20,000, in the 1983 WPGA Tour. Among the international entrants watch out for Britain's Jenny Lee Smith, who won last year and is favourite to win this year. Woburn Golf and Country Club, Bury St Edmunds, Milton Keynes (0286 748868). Play from 9.30am. Until May 7.

RHODODENDRON SHOW: The main show of the year centres on a big competition and large displays. New rhododendrons being raised include the smaller yakushimanum hybrids which have white, pink or red blooms, grow to about five feet high and have a series named after the Seven Dwarfs. Royal Horticultural Society Halls, Vincent Square, London SW1 (834 4333). Previews from today. Everyman Cinema, Hampstead (435 1525). Mon-Sat 11am-7pm. Sunday 11am-5pm. Until May 12.

CLAUDETTE LELOUCH: In Britain Lelouch is a neglected, unfashionable director, but this season salutes his distinctive gifts, culminating on May 11 with the British premiere of *Les ames des autres* (a three-hour musical soap opera) and a Guardian Lecture by the man himself. Entertainments begin today for *Life*, 6.10pm. National Film Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3232).

PROSPECT OF PROMS: Today the prospectus for the Proms is published from newsmen and bookshops; price £1, or by post, £1.55, from BBC Publications, PO Box 234, London SE1. The Proms run from July 22 to September 17 and there is a new system for allocation of last night tickets: anyone who buys tickets for four separate concerts is entitled to apply for two tickets for the last night.

Thursday

NEVER CASTLE COLLECTION: The collection of arms and armour formed by William Astor in the early years of the century is the most important group to come on the market for 50 years. The Marinese armour made for King Henry II of France is expected to top £500,000. There will be cheaper suits as well as daggers, swords, arquebuses and pistols. The armours and works of art from Henry are being sold on Friday (11am). Sotheby's, Bond Street, London W1 (018 6060). 11am and 2.30pm. Viewing Monday to Wednesday, (9am-4.30pm).

BALLET: Sadler's Wells Ballet bring their new production of *Swan Lake* to Covent Garden.

ROES REVIEW: Noelle Roes's *Die Ersatz* opens in London. See page 7.

BERKSHIRE: Steven Berkoff's *West* opens at Donmar Warehouse. See page 5.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING: The latest in the RSC season of tragedy, *Much Ado About Nothing*, is directed by Terry Hands, with Derek Jacobi as Benedick, Simon Callow as Beatrice, and Michael Gambon as Leonato. Preview from today, 7.30pm; matinée May 7 and 12 at 2pm. Opens May 12 at 7pm. In repertory.

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Friday

OPEN HOUSE AT GIBSONS: Stanley Gibbons celebrate the introduction of compulsory pre-paid postage on May 11. Events include a philatelic quiz with the prize of a framed Penny Black (entry forms at the shop, entries in by May 31); free valuations on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10am-1pm; matinée on Thurs May 12, 19, 26, 3pm and Saturdays on May 13, 20, 27, 3pm.

OTHER WORLDS: Premier of a play by Robert Holman, set during the Napoleonic wars, and telling of a feud between the fishermen of Robin Hood's Bay and the farmers of Flyingthorpe. Directed by Richard Wilson, design by John Sykes, with Jim Broadbent, Paul Copley, Lesley Dunlop, Rosemary Leach, Paul Luty. Royal Court (731 1745). Preview from today. Opens May 11 at 7pm. Daily at 7.30pm; matinée on Sat, 3pm, from May 21.

Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 895.3 down 1.5
FT Gilts: 81.55 down 0.05
FT All Shares: 441.08 up 1.74
Bargains: 25.458
Tring Hall USM Index: 172.1 down 0.2
Tokyo Closed
Hongkong: 1,019.43 up 6.82
New York Dow Jones Average (latest) 1,215.56 down 3.96

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5605 up 10 pts
Index 84.2 unchanged
DM 3.8475
Fr 11.54
Yen 37.25
Dollar 122.6 down 0.2
DM 2.4842 up 7 pts
Gold \$429 down \$2.50
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold \$429.25
Sterling \$1.5575

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 10
3 month Interbank 10%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 81%
3 month DM 51%
3 month 13-12%

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period March 2 to April 5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Booth C. 23p up 5p
Massey-Ferguson 310p up 65p
Willaire Sys. 6p up 1p
Crest Int. 12.5p up 2p
Memory Comp. 215p up 13p
Delmar 36p up 5p
Humberstone Elec. 17p down 6p
Cornell Hedges 136p down 36p
Druck Hedges 280p down 33p
Nimslab Int. 70p down 8p
Hambros (22) 210 down 21p
SW Resources 15.5p down 1.5p

Warburg cuts tie with Paribas

S. G. Warburg, the merchant bank, unravelling most of its formal ties with Paribas, the nationalized French banking group. Since 1973, Warburg and its holding company Mercury Securities, has had extensive cross-shareholdings involving Paribas' European operations and, until last month, a jointly-held stake in the American investment bank A. G. Becker.

Mr David Scholey, Warburg's joint chairman, said yesterday that the two groups would still work together but Warburg wanted to take a more direct involvement in its international activities rather than operating through associated companies.

Mercury will in effect swap its 7.5 per cent stake in Banque Paribas and smaller interests in the Dutch, Belgian and Swiss subsidiaries in return for Paribas' 24 per cent stake in Warburg and £1.2m cash.

• Cheque-link: Standard Chartered is joining forces with Bristol & West to provide cheque books and current account facilities to the building society's customers. Called Monyclink the new scheme will give Standard Chartered entry to the retail banking market and allow Bristol & West to offer new services to its customers.

• Sotheby wait: The Trade Secretary's expected decision on whether to refer £60m American bid for Sotheby Parke-Bernet, failed to materialize yesterday. The Office of Fair Trading is believed to have recommended against reference.

• SOHIO DROP: Sohio, the American subsidiary of BP, reported a 39 per cent drop in first-quarter earnings from \$455m to \$277m.

• LAWSON TOUR: Britain's contacts with leading Opec members will be stepped up next week with a five-day visit to the Gulf by Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary for Energy.

• NIGERIAN AID: A growing number of banks are preparing to join the four banks, coordinated by Barclays Bank International, which are proposing a refinancing of Nigeria's trade debt arrears.

• HONGKONG PROBE: The Hongkong Securities Commission said it has appointed inspectors to investigate the affairs of the Carrion Group, including Carrion Holdings, Carrion Investments, their subsidiaries and associated related companies.

• LLOYD'S PANEL: Mr Cyril Newman, QC, and Mr R. Whewell, a partner of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Co, have been appointed by the Committee of Lloyd's to its panel on warranty inquiries.

Wall St hit by profit taking

New York (Reuters) - Stock prices were hit by profit-taking yesterday and turned mixed in morning trading, with the sellers concentrating on the blue chip stocks.

The Dow Jones industrial average was off about six points but advances still led declines by a margin of seven to six.

Losers among the blue chip stocks included IBM, off one to 116 1/2, American Express two to 66 1/2, International Harvester 17 1/2 to 9 1/2, and Allied Corp one to 45.

Desert Corp slid 2% to 32 1/4, adding to a 5% point drop on Thursday. The company said it would have difficulty in meeting last year's earnings.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Department reported yesterday that the index of leading economic indicators rose for the seventh consecutive month in March with a 1.5 per cent gain, which confirmed the fact that a healthy recovery is under way.

Altogether seven of the 11 indicators included in the index, which is the most closely watched barometer of the US economic activity, rose last month.

Two of the most positive signs in last month's results were a strong rise in prices for basic raw materials which were seriously depressed during the bottom of the recession and a longer average workweek which indicated the pace at US factories is once again picking up.

Indeed, the economy showed signs of healthy albeit slightly less than expected growth despite the fact that new orders for consumer goods remained flat last month.

Administration economists have said repeatedly that they expect a surge in consumer spending to lead the economy out of recession, particularly during the second half of the year.

The fact that the economy is showing signs of good recovery without this boost from recession-wary consumers is considered a hopeful sign.

Still, the slower pace of growth last month and in February when the index rose by just 1.4 per cent has led some economists to caution that the recovery will be uneven and modest at best.

They noted that in January the index rose by 3.2 per cent for its largest monthly showing in more than 30 years but this rapid growth dropped sharply in the following month and has stayed in this reduced range.

Rumasa's deficit 'may top £1bn'

By Jeremy Warner

The outstanding deficit of Rumasa, the banking, wine trading and hotels group expropriated by the Spanish authorities this year, could be considerably higher than pesetas 200 billion (about £1 billion), the company's new Government-appointed administrator, Senor Ricardo Goytre, said in London yesterday.

Senor Miguel Boyer, Spain's finance minister, estimated the deficit at about 200 billion pesetas.

Senor Goytre, administrator of the non-banking side of the group, said that confirmation of the deficit's size must await a detailed review of the group's operations, which include the Augustus Barnett off-shore chain in Britain.

The former chairman of Rumasa, Senor Jose Maria Ruiz Mateos, claimed in London recently that his company was worth 500 billion pesetas, (nearly £2.5 billion) on the day it was seized by the Spanish Government. Senor Mateos has said through his press agent that he plans to return to Madrid, where he left his wife and 13 children last month, to face fraud charges on May 5.

Currency intervention controls wild fluctuations, study group says

By Graham Seargent

Intervention in foreign exchange markets to damp down speculation has been beneficial, leading international study group concluded yesterday.

The working group on Exchange Market Intervention, set up after the Versailles summit of seven leading western industrialized nations last year, gives strong support to those who oppose the entrenched American position

which is that markets must be left to find their own level.

Rather, it supports the Continental view that central banks should try to minimize fluctuations.

The report, named after M. Philippe Jurgensen, the working party's French chairman, examines summit countries' attempts to intervene between 1973 and 1981 and concludes that intervention had been "an effective

tool in the pursuit of certain exchange rate objectives - notably those oriented towards influencing the behaviour of the exchange rate in the short run" even if the central banks lost money in the process.

It warns, however, that attempts to pursue exchange rate objectives inconsistent with fundamental trends in inflation and trade balances "tended to be counter-productive".

Despite this important caveat, the report undermines the United States' hands off position, which caused dissension at Versailles and led to a working party being established.

In particular, the report concludes that, despite the level of professional trading, foreign exchange markets have been inefficient at interpreting economic fundamentals, which have proved a better guide to long-

run exchange rate trends than either short-term market movements or prices in the market for forward currency.

The report suggests that intervention can be helpful to remove a range of causes of exchange rate volatility such as seasonal trading conditions, or disorderly markets caused by confusion over official economic policies.

Central banks can usefully intervene to reduce the extent or pace of movements. It found that "bandwagons" could develop, where day-to-day movements themselves determined future price trends.

It found that central banks had in several cases successfully bought time when they judged that market traders had failed to understand changes in economic fundamentals or in policy.

Jurgensen even quotes the experience of the United States in 1978 and at end of 1980 as an example of a central locking bank successfully smoothing trends in its exchange rates.

Action reduced the variability of the dollar-Denmark rate compared to periods when the US Government stood by.

The report implicitly praises the efforts of the members of the European Monetary System who have intervened heavily at times to counter volatility without unduly resisting changes in response to underlying forces. "The system has avoided both short-term variability and large swings in exchange rates on its members", said Jurgensen.

However, it continually emphasizes that intervention in foreign exchange markets is "no

substitute for necessary changes in economic policy". For that reason it concludes that attempts to block the monetary effects of foreign exchange intervention on the domestic economy make central bank action less effective.

The authorities found support for domestic policy adjustments, especially in the field of monetary policy, to be indispensable, states the report.

In a passage of particular

importance to next month's

Williamsburg summit, Jurgensen stresses the value of

cooperation between central

banks. "Closely coordinated

action had at times been more

effective than intervention by

one central bank because it

gave a signal to the market that

the authorities were working to

the same purpose", the report concludes.

City Comment

Tactics and skirmishes before war

Merchant banker S. G. Warburg has acquired a considerable reputation over the years as a successful defender in takeover battles, and an innovator in the field of tactics. It is not surprising, therefore, that Thomas Tilling ran straight into Warburg's arms when it received its highly unwelcome bid from BTR.

However, Warburg's first real shot in the battle seems to be more of an innovation than a really serious attempt to defeat BTR's bid at this stage. On the bank's advice, the board of Tilling has adopted the unusual, probably unique, course of writing not to its own shareholders, but to those of BTR.

It is a legitimate tactic, since the size of the proposed acquisition requires approval from BTR shareholders before the bid can go ahead at all. But Warburg cannot seriously expect arguments that its own institutional shareholders would not accept at this early stage in the battle to sway firm institutional shareholders in the other camp.

The formal defence document has not yet been published, and there are no forecasts of profits or dividends on the table. The skirmishing has started, but the real war has still to be joined.

Tilling has said something, thus avoiding the potential drawback of deafening silence. At the same

time it has put off its full defence until much closer to the first closing date of the BTR offer, thus crowding the other side.

Put another way, it has earned itself this number of words, while the BTR camp has restricted itself to announcing that further market purchases have

raised their Tilling stake to

9 per cent and a disparaging

comment on the Warburg offensive. Crafty old Warburg.

High exports swing trade into surplus

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Britain's trade with the rest of the world swung sharply back into surplus last month after the big deficits recorded in the first two months of the year.

Exports in March rose to a record £5.28bn in money terms and this, combined with lower imports over the previous month, pushed the visible trade balance into a surplus for the first time since 1979.

The turnaround in last month's trade balance reflects an improvement in areas such as chemicals and some semi-manufactured and finished goods, including cars. There was also a drop in semi-manufactured imports.

Figures for the first quarter, which reflect more accurately the underlying trend, show exports up by 1 per cent to £14.8 billion over the previous quarter. In volume terms, exports were 1 per cent below the last quarter of 1982 but 2 per cent above the first quarter.

Quarterly figures also confirm the rising trend in imports, and the Department of Trade said that the underlying level of import volume, which changed little in 1982, now seemed to be increasing.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

	Current	Visible	Invisible	Balance	Balance
1981	5961	2870	3091		
1982	3948	2228	1720		
1982 Q1	803	623	580		
Q3	847	609	238		
Q4	1709	1262	447		
1983 Q1	287	253	540		
1982 Oct	384	215	149		
Nov	668	538	149		
Dec	657	508	149		
Jan	-411	-481	180		
Feb	42	-138	180		
Mar	556	376	180		

Asda chief for Woolworth

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Mr Richard Harker, operations manager in charge of the Asda supermarket chain within Associated Dairies Group, has been recruited by Woolworth Holdings as one of a new team of top men to bring round the ailing retail giant.

Mr Harker, aged 37, is a Yorkshireman with a reputation for dynamism. He rose through the Asda ranks over 17 years. He fits the description set out by Mr John Beckett, Woolworth's chairman, in his re-

quirements for a team of young top executives with experience. Mr Harker has been in both store and area management

A new structure for operating the Woolworth stores has not been finally decided. One option would be for medium-sized and smaller stores, some 850, to be run separately from the 100 bigger stores.

There is increasing speculation that Mr Harker may be chosen to develop the medium-sized and smaller stores.

Mr Harker has said something, thus avoiding the potential drawback of deafening silence. At the same time it has put off its full defence until much closer to the first closing date of the BTR offer, thus crowding the other side.

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raised their Tilling stake to 9 per cent and a disparaging comment on the Warburg offensive. Crafty old Warburg.

Pensions

How to take problems out of the biggest investment in your life

In a couple of months, the 12 million members of Britain's occupational pension schemes will be able to seek advice, locally and free, on what for many of us is the single biggest and most misunderstood investment in our lives. Survey after survey demonstrates the most appalling apathy and ignorance of employees, many of whom are paying up to 7 per cent. of their salaries into occupational pension schemes - often against their will and in the conviction that it is all an enormous fiddle.

Treading very cautiously comes senior civil servant, Miss Margaret Grainger, with Occupational Pensions Advisory Services (OPAS).

OPAS is trying for charitable status and will probably be partially funded by the pensions industry. It is linking up with the Citizens Advice Bureau to provide a pensions information service at CAB's 850 branches, backed up by a panel of local, and central pensions experts.

Miss Grainger describes it as a "supplementary" service, designed to give fairly unsophisticated advice and explain to pension fund members what their rights are. She wants to set up a tracing agency. One big problem, apparently is tracking

down pension schemes of former employers to claim a frozen pension.

Widows, according to Miss Grainger, often need advice about their husband's scheme. The trouble with all these well meaning plans is that pensions, in their nature, pose complicated problems. OPAS would for example give advice to an employee pondering whether to accept a frozen pension, take a transfer and explain the meaning of the options. "Often the

widows often need advice about the rules of their husband's scheme

employee doesn't know whether his employer will let him transfer, we would have to find out what the scheme rules are.

What OPAS will not do is take up the cudgels on a member's behalf, arguing for a higher transfer value, for instance.

The new organisation, which is still not quite sure where all the £50,000 needed for its first year of operation is coming from, does not intend to be a ginger group. In any case, according to Miss Grainger, it fully expects to find that most of the referrals will prove to

be straightforward.

Margaret Drummond



Miss Grainger: explaining pension rights

Trusts

Suspended firm blames owner's 'problems'

Investors in Isle of Man based Richmond Life's Genstone Trust are concerned about their money. Dealings in Genstone Trust were suspended on March 31 and since then it has been impossible to buy or sell units, so the fund's 582 investors are just sitting tight - and hoping.

The problem has been caused by the difficulties of Gems International, the sapphire brokers, whose London and Guernsey offices have been closed down. Calls are being referred to the company's accountants who maintain that Gems International is still in existence. But they say little else.

Mr John Ormond, Richmond's chairman, puts Gems International's troubles down to big problems affecting Gem's ultimate owner, Nils Nylen, a Swedish businessman. Mr Ormond says he first became aware of Gems International's problems last August. He thought they were short term and capable of being resolved.

Peter Garfield

Capital and income bonds

Law spells end to high-tax avoidance

The Government has clamped down on the controversial "capital and income bonds", a highly artificial device whereby higher rates of income tax can be avoided.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said in an answer to a question in the House of Commons: "In recent months it has become clear that there had been serious, and growing, exploitation of this device. In order to safeguard the Exchequer from a potentially substantial loss of tax, the Government intends to propose legislation, in the form of a new clause at Committee Stage of the current Finance Bill.

Capital and income bonds are an arrangement by which profits arising on investments in unit-linked single premium policies which are "non-qualifying" are shifted artificially to a qualifying policy so that the proceeds of the qualifying policy are taken tax-free on maturity.

The effect of the proposed

measures will be to deny qualifying status to any policy, which is connected with another policy, or policies, if any of the policies provide "unrealistic benefits", said Mr Ridley.

The biggest promoters of capital and income bonds have been Standa Life, Albany Life, Merchant Investors and, to a lesser extent, Providence Capital and Transnational Life. An estimated £250m has been put into the bonds since Standa launched its contract in 1981.

The Government's move came as no surprise to the industry, although Mr Edward Fairman, of Merchant Investors, said he was disappointed that a contract, considered by the company to be a legitimate use of existing legislation, should be discontinued in this way.

None of the member offices of the Life Offices Association issued Capital and Income bonds. The new legislation will not affect conventional income bonds or growth bonds.

Accountants move in at £10m advisers

Staff were refusing to allow in, or to speak to clients at the Mayfair offices of investment advisers, Exchange Securities and Commodities, yesterday. A team of accountants led by Mr Stephen James, of Thomson McLintock, have moved into the company's premises in London and the head office in Warwick, after a petition by the Department of Trade for the compulsory winding up of six companies in the Exchange group.

Exchange Securities and Commodities advertised its investment services heavily in recent weeks but Keith Hunt, the owner and chief executive has been unavailable for the past 14 days.

Exchange managed more than £10m of private clients' money and has around 2,000

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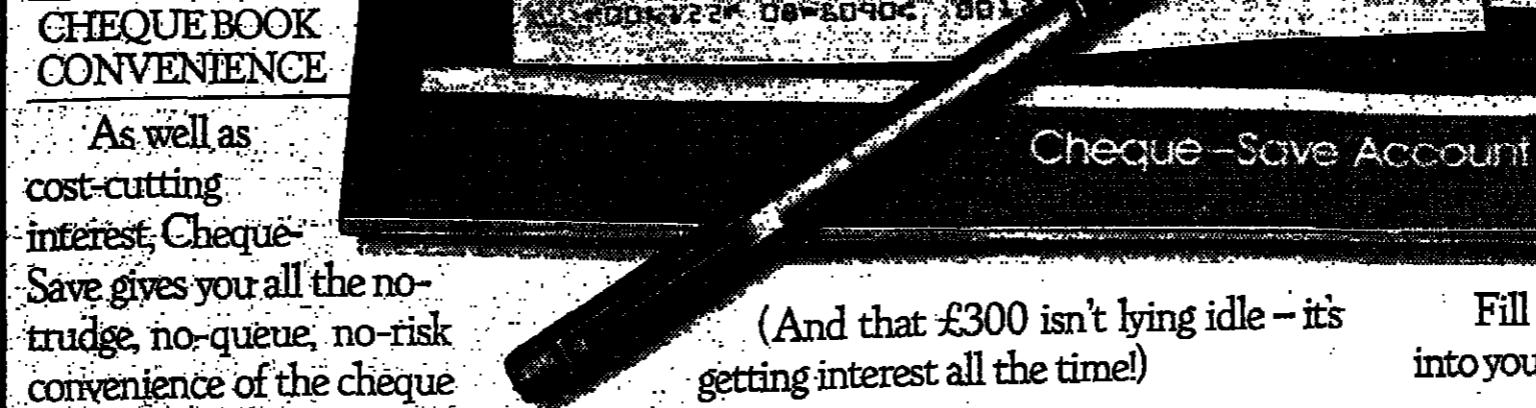
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RUGBY UNION: JOHN PLAYER AND WELSH CUP FINALS

Leicester's seen-it-all, won-it-all men for all finals have a slight edge

By David Hand, Rugby Correspondent

In the last five years, Leicester have had every kind of cup final experience. They have won, they have lost, they have been favourites and won without style, they have been outsiders, and won with verve, they have come from behind, they have led from the start. The only thing they have not done is drawn, which, as Gloucester and Moseley will say after last year's final, is an experience best avoided.

All this is partly why I expect them to win today's John Player Cup Final against Bristol at Twickenham. Too many Leicester players have been in the same position before: of those who have not, Nick Youngs, the scrum-half, has enjoyed senior international experience. Four Bristol men have played before an international crowd, but only one, Alan Morley, has appeared in a cup final, and that was 10 years ago, when the knockout competition was in only its second year, and had not acquired such a prestige.

This, of course, will be meat and drink to Bristol in their hotel in Maidenhead this morning. David Tyler, their coach, has no objection at all to the label of underdog, knowing that it makes his task easier. Leicester were underdogs in 1981, when they beat that Goforth's forwards would scrum them out of the game. That was Leicester's best game in their four finals.

One of Leicester's senior officers has suggested that the two clubs, similar in approach in many ways, and not only because they both identify their teams with letters, could spend the whole 80 minutes testing each other out - an exaggeration, but one sets the point. In the initial setting-down period, both Les Cusworth, for Leicester, and his opposite number, Stuart Barnes, will wish to examine the capabilities of the respective full backs. How Duggan and Ian Dodson

Duggan has trained all week, but has also been receiving treatment for fluid on the knee. It is to be hoped that his mobility is unimpaired because Cusworth and Paul Dodge are likely to put up diagonal kicks and carry-ons for Clive Woodward and his wings, to pursue Woodward, like Huw

Davies of England, has perfected the technique of the timed arrival and the tap-down of a high kick to his support.

Similarly, Barnes will be aware that Dodson is a newcomer to the full back position, and will wish to put him through his paces. If either side can pick up a score by these tactics early in the game, so

men, Mike Rafter and Peter Pollard have few peers as winners of possession on the ground, or as supporting cast when the ball is among the backs.

One of Leicester's injury doubts has been the flanker, Ian Smith, their nearest equivalent to Rafter. However, Smith, Dodge, Barnwell and Gilling-

Paths to the final

LEICESTER: Third round: High Wycombe 47-18 (home); Fourth round: Bath 20-10 (away); Semi-final: West Bromwich Albion 18-14 (home); Final: Cardiff 15-14 (away). Leading try-scorer: J. Carr (5). A. Morley (8).

much the better. But both clubs are more at home handling the ball, at making space for their wings, and again both full backs will have a role to play in attack. If Dodson can go some way towards filling the boots of the unavailable Dusty Hare, he will be doing well.

All this assumes, of course, a flow of reasonable possession.

Bristol will hope for a degree of superiority in the lineout, while appreciating that Leicester's ball-winners have a habit of coming good when they need to. The scrummaging will be equal, which leaves the loose ball as the decisive area: the Bristol



No Hare: but Cusworth (above) could swing it for Leicester

Wiltshire farmer behind them? And can both clubs serve up the kind of fare that will put a shine on an unhappy English season?

That they can there is no doubt. To predict that they will be so place too great a weight of expectation on willing shoulders. Both clubs are there to win the cup; they can do so by running the ball, some 13,000 Leicester supporters, some 7,000 Bristolians and a few thousand uncommitted others, will be privileged. But if

Referee: R. Cultherton (London).

ham all came through a stiff training evening on Thursday, and Bristol will find the young Leicester No 8, Dean Richards, moves around as quickly as many flankers. Richards is one of the game's most promising young men, even if his senior experience is strictly limited. This will be his first appearance at Twickenham, of any kind.

It is Leicester's hope that, by scoring tries, they will compensate for the absence of Hare. Indeed, this is one of the most intriguing aspects of a final which may draw a record crowd of 30,000 - how will Leicester fare without the equitable Not

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Eddie Butler plays at lock

one of the twice-told tale can be told, then the Swans team who face Bay Prosser's Pontypool in today's Welsh Cup final, sponsored by Schweppe, will have grown weary and given themselves over to preparation over the last week. In keeping Pontypool's strength, Ian Hall, the Swansea coach, has talked endlessly of the threat that will come from the opposition's formidable pack, whose activities will be orchestrated by Bishop, their scrum half. To consider any variety would be time wasted: Pontypool are unlikely to use their three quarters.

But it is really as simple as that.

Statistics might suggest otherwise. As if to contradict the coach's assessment that Pontypool will rely on their pack's power and on Lewis's kicking skills, the season's details show that they have scored 207 tries and conceded 1,301 points.

Swansea, the team with the running reputation, have scored only 158 tries and 1,000 points.

Admittedly, Lewis, who will play at centre today, and Enys, their wing,

are to stand a chance of winning the match. There is no alternative for them, but Swansea are well-equipped to play the tight game, but, on the other hand, things go badly for them in this phase, they have the ability in the kick division to change the pattern.

Dacey is an accomplished footballer, and Jenkins a forceful centre, and behind them, Blyth, who overcomes the peering of high balls with Bishop and Goldsworthy will surely shower him, can turn defence swiftly into attack. However, on this occasion, they will be without David Richards, whose absence could prove crucial.

He did a few weeks ago against Cardiff, when he had the letter of Nantes, the new British Lion. He will be missed, especially on Monday, when Swansea allow their locks to change positions. Clegg, whose fourth appearance this is in a final, will contest the front of the line against Perkins, who can consider himself unlucky not to be going to New Zealand.

Pontypool, with their inflexibility, must win at forward if they

ATHLETICS

Jones is in for a marathon struggle

By Pat Butcher

Hugh Jones runs his first half-marathon in almost a year in London tomorrow, as he strives to see if he has recovered from his operations and recent injuries, and can make a serious challenge for the vacant marathon place in the British team for the world championships in Helsinki in August.

The marathon selection for both Helsinki and the European Cup in Spain June 24 were made yesterday, but the details of the difficulties of informing athletes over the holiday weekends, the names will not be announced until Tuesday. John Le Meurier, chairman of the British selectors, said yesterday that the selections were fairly straightforward, implying that the prior notice of the importance of the first two places in the London marathon

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had been honoured.

That means that Mike Granon,

Gerry Helme, Glynnis Penny, and

Kathy Sims can confirm their

programme leading up to Helsinki.

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FOOTBALL

Mayday call goes out from sinking ships

By Peter Ball

This year the May Day weekend appears to have replaced Easter as a major staging post in the football calendar, with most of the teams involved in promotion and relegation facing two matches in three days, which will go a long way to determining their eventual fate. It is a time when an unlucky bounce or a debatable decision can undo a season's endeavour, when nerve ends show and the ability to battle is often more important than talent.

Nowhere are these considerations more pertinent than among the clubs struggling to avoid relegation at the bottom of the first division. With only four games left and a gap of four points between Birmingham in twentieth place and Manchester City in nineteenth, it would be no real surprise if the bottom three this morning were to be the ones relegated. But all have a game in hand over Manchester City, whose meeting this afternoon with Nottingham Forest, their only one of the holiday, takes on greater significance as a result.

A loss in that game coupled with wins for their rivals could see them in the bottom three itself, a remarkable decline from the moment in November when they briefly held second place. It is a bad time to lose players, and City will almost certainly be without Reeves, who faces a fitness test this morning. Forest, who are still second for points to claim a UEFA Cup berth, make an unforced change. Hodge returning after suspension to replace Proctor.

A victory for Forest would provide extra incentive for both Birmingham and Brighton, who meet at St Andrews on Monday after trips today to teams still on the fringe of the struggle. Birmingham go to Sunderland seeking their third win in a row, a run which has lifted them off 22nd place after they had looked the most certain candidates for the big drop, with



McNab the prodigal returns

Stevenson and Ferguson fit to take their places in a 13-man squad. Sunderland, themselves on the crest of a slump without a win in seven games, make three changes, dropping Waddington and Cooke to suspension. Hindmarsh to suspension, Rummell, Cummins and Whifield replace them.

Brighton go to Notts County, who have won only once in their past nine games, leaving their team manager Howard Wilkinson desolate. "We are absolutely desperate for points," probably not as desperate as the Cup finalists, although with a visit to Birmingham on Monday followed by a visit from Manchester City next week, Brighton, more than most, have their fate in their own hands. Robinson and Case face fitness tests, however. If Case fails to make it, the former club captain Neil McNab will play.

Should McNab take his place, it will provide yet another striking example of the career fluctuations footballers face.

After some outspoken remarks at a supposedly "no-holds barred" team meeting, McNab fell into disfavour, became the club's forgotten man during the Cup run, and was loaned to Leeds and recently Portsmouth. He was recalled from Port-

smouth as the club's injury problems grew, and now Jimmy Melia says, "McNab's past differences with the club are forgotten. His attitude has been first class since he came back and I am certain he can do a good job for us."

Another player with special reasons for doing a good job today is Swansea's captain, Robbie James, who celebrates ten years of League football against Ipswich this afternoon. Sentiment demands that he should mark the occasion by scoring his 100th League goal, but with his club in bottom position, three points would be an even more acceptable present. Swansea's situation is an unavoidable one, but they at least have two home matches over the weekend, with Aston Villa on Monday.

Kennedy's old colleague Phil Thompson returns to the Liverpool team as the champions elect go to White Lane in search of the point which will make their fourteenth championship official. Thompson and Rush take over from the midweek injury victims, Lee and Whelan, whose absence produced some typically caustic comments from Bob Paisley. He seems unnecessarily worried, for even if Liverpool lose at Tottenham, Manchester United have to win their game at Norwich, the form team of the moment. Cunningham plays his first full game since joining the club on loan. Grimes moving back to replace the injured Albiston, and he, like the hard-core of chairman, who feel that all TV football should be abandoned, and the change from the earlier proposal for complete live matches will meet the objections of the big clubs, who feared that all their most attractive games would be shown on TV, with a consequent loss of gate income.

TV companies have also offered some concessions on advertising, although whether they have gone far enough to meet the clubs in what is, for many, the most important point in the negotiations remains to be seen. The TV companies have maintained their resistance to slogans on the shirts, but smaller logos and team names are now acceptable. Their details were not made public yesterday's meeting, and they will contact Graham Kelly, the Football League secretary, with their "final words on shirt advertising" early next week.

BBC's negotiator, Jonathan

Martin:

"We have to try to face the reality of sport as it is now. We have been trying to find a way of reflecting the sponsors in football. But I don't think, as sportsmen, we would like to see other sportsmen walking about as advertising banners. We have to go to guard against the exploitation of our sport."

For clubs, who know that shirt sponsorship in its present form would produce a massive increase

Celtic can gain ground

Championship nerves could play a part in today's premier division programme in Scotland. All three title contenders, Dundee United, Celtic and Aberdeen, travel and each will be conscious of the need for victory.

Dundee United, the leaders, are giving away travel vouchers to enable 4,000 of their supporters to see them in action at Morton. But United who have just been relegated will not consider it a blow if they win. Aberdeen, the side which defeated Motherwell in midweek for the journey to Dundee.

Celtic seem to have the easiest task with a trip to Kilmarnock, who are relegated. Their manager Billy

TENNIS

McEnroe plans a grand slam

From a Special Correspondent, Dallas

John McEnroe plans to go for the Grand Slam this year. The winning of the Australian, French, Wimbledon and US titles in the same year has been achieved only by Donald Budge, before the war, and Rod Laver. McEnroe, is prepared to try and join the illustrious pair.

He admitted that after he used a new larger racket for the first time and beat Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia 6-2, 6-2, to each the semi-final of the World Championships.

McEnroe is hoping that the new racket, which he has borrowed from his younger brother, Patrick, will ease the problems of tendinitis in his left shoulder. "I feel pretty good," McEnroe said. He felt unable to get more aggression into his game, but he still needs more play with the new racket. This showed it in the way he outplayed Smid, but it was a win that had its problems with an outburst by McEnroe and severe

criticism from Smid about the American's attitude.

A curious adaption of calling the lines, which had not been communicated to the players or the chair umpire, was the root of the trouble. Unable to understand why the official at the opposite end was calling the decisions, McEnroe halted play in the seventh game of the second set demanding some explanation.

Mark Cox, who was in the chair, was unable to tell him beyond it was a "Texas system". That did not suit McEnroe and it was not until Ron Bennett, the referee, had been called in another way, "All college tennis is played on this sort of system and that was a little to my advantage."

There has been a considerable up and down two games later Smid stormed to the chair querying a decision he was given a 15 second warning. Smid bitterly argued afterwards: "McEnroe tries to get every call. He is always complaining and puts a lot of pressure on the line judges. It is very bad. If anyone else did what he does they would get a warning and be defaulted."

McEnroe played superbly. After his place in the semi-final when he now meets the revitalised Vitas Gerulaitis, who dismissed Guillermo Vilas 7-6, 6-4, 6-2, McEnroe said that his place was to play all the Grand Slam championships and that he will also play for the US Open, the Republic of Ireland in the Davis Cup and in Dublin in late September if asked.

America, last year's winners are fighting for survival in the top division of the Davis Cup after their defeat by Argentina, and it was significant the Gerulaitis, who was not in that team, has beaten Jose Luis Clerc and Vilas, the two Argentine players in successive rounds.

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points for 3-0 and three break points for 5-4."

Richard Lewis, who had been called to play Myrson in the final, was 6-4, 6-4, 6-4. Stephen Shaw, aged 20, who was introduced to King's Cup competition in January, served and volleyed so well that he had break points against him in only two games.

Last May he finished a year at Alabama University, where tough competition improved his game.

He modestly suggested yesterday that the experience had helped him in another way. "All college tennis is played on this sort of system and that was a little to my advantage."

Chris Bradnam, who will be remembered for beating Heinz Günthardt at Bournemouth last week, needed five match points

before beating Shaw 6-4, 7-5.

The domestic rankings will also be decided by American Brown's remarkable decision 6-0, 6-2, 6-0 over Elizabeth Jones, aged 19, who is more than a year her senior. Miss Brown won the first eight games and in the process was only twice taken to deuce. Her opponent in the final will be Debbie Jarrett (née Javans), aged 22, who has been playing unusually good cause - that she has come from a greater sense of purpose since her marriage last October.

By way of consolation, they have acquitted, however, a powerful new recruit in Maria Figueras-Dotti, who won the British Open last year who has beaten Miss Figueras-Dotti, the amateur champion. Arthur Groom, Andrew Groom, and George MacGregor, Charles Green, their captain, will also be playing.

McEnroe, who has played four Davis Cup singles for Britain, has always been remarkable for his skill, but also his bold and basic, and his unflinching tenacity.

All three qualities are still serving him well, although he had a leg operation in January (to remove a ganglion) and his thirty-first birthday.

Feaver bounded back and into final

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

John Feaver, who has played four Davis Cup singles for Britain, has always been remarkable for his skill, but also his bold and basic, and his unflinching tenacity. All three qualities are still serving him well, although he had a leg operation in January (to remove a ganglion) and his thirty-first birthday.

Feaver bounded off the ropes to beat two South Africans in turn and thus end the men's singles final of the British Home Cup, Saturday evening at Hampstead. On Thursday evening he saved two match points in recovering from 2-4 in the third set to beat Frew McMillan 2-6, 6-4, 11-9. Yesterday he won 7-5, 4-6, 6-4 against the top seed, Mike Myburgh, who served for the first set at 5-4 and, in the third, had two break

points for 3-0 and three break points for 5-4.

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Feaver bounded back and into final

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

That was the bill that was

Johannesburg (Reuters) - The 360 double world title bill, which was due to be settled in Bophuthatswana next month, appears to be on the verge of collapse.

The World Boxing Association (WBA) champions were scheduled to defend their titles in an early morning promotion on May 28 which also included a concert by Frank Sinatra. But a broken collarbone suffered in training by the lightweight champion Ray Mancini and the withdrawal of Sincere was followed yesterday by the second world champion, the junior-middleweight Davey Moore, threatening to pull out.

Moore's manager, Leon Washington, who has the Southern Sun Hotel chain, promoting the contest, wanted to cut the boxer's purse to \$300,000, of which half would go in tax. "That won't do", Mr Washington said.

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Diesis should flout the golden rule

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Classics are seldom won by horses who have suffered an interrupted training programme. I was given that advice a long time ago by no less an authority than that great trainer, Sir Noel Murless, and abiding by it has proved right more often than not. Occasionally something happens to disprove the rule and today I will not be surprised if none other than Sir Noel's talented son-in-law, Henry Cecil, manages to do so by winning the 2000 Guineas with Diesis at Newmarket.

With Diesis pulling a muscle in his quarters, albeit only slightly, four weeks ago, Gorytus still something of a mystery after his debacle here last autumn and Wassi, Lomond and Alverton all coming on to the picture at the eleventh hour, this is one of the most difficult races to analyze that I can recall.

My confidence in Diesis finally returned on Wednesday when Cecil had this to say: "Now I think that we have got a good chance of getting him to the church on time". Cecil had just watched Diesis work spectacularly well on Waterhall, one of Newmarket's most reliable training grounds.

"It was certainly the best bit of work that he has done all spring", George Robinson, our

Newmarket correspondent, told me later and that comment was echoed by the trainer himself in the meantime both Cecil and his immensely experienced head lad, Paddy Shadkin, have been heartened by the way that Diesis took his gallop physically and by the way that he has tucked in to his food at home.

That is a good sign. The other bonus is that he is a little clean-shaven colt who needs comparatively little fast work. Better still, he was also pretty straight when his setback occurred.

Hence the temptation to give

himself as one of the best in the land.

Hern, has taken Gorytus to Bath racecourse and to Newmarket, too, this spring in a endeavour to have him primed for this occasion and each time he has gone well. But only time will tell whether that experience in the Dewhurst has left a permanent mark.

With Proclaim clearly held

on paper, Mr Niarchos's best chance surely lies with Alverton.

The directors of Newmarket Racecourses Trust announced yesterday that they would be seeking a minimum of 1,000 and 2,000 Guineas for the race.

That decision followed a meeting of the Jockey Club at Newmarket earlier in the day at which the stewards laid down guidelines to assist racemasters in negotiating sponsorship of the classic races, Michael Phillips writes.

Newmarket's clerk of the course, Mr Len Lomond, ideally would like the Colours and a pair of a minimum three-year contract. We feel that this represents a sound

commercial package as these two races are run within two days of each other and receive international television coverage.

Newmarket will be looking for a minimum of £150,000 for the pair.

That figure is to be split between the Jockey Club and the stewards, with the former getting a considerably bigger cut when they announced that they had found a sponsor for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. Classics are sponsored in France and in Ireland, too, and it was only a matter of time before this country fell into step.

Gorytus the benefit of the doubt is considerable because he did look so good when he won his first race at York in August and again when he ran clean away from Proclaim and On Stage in the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster. But the fact remains that this has been a difficult spring for trainers because of the weather and Hern's stable has been unusually slow to find its rhythm.

Carrying the colours of Stravros Niarchos, who saw Nureyev win the classic three years ago and then suffer the ignominy of being disqualified, Proclaim enters the fray with a good record this season but with little chance of beating Wassi let alone Gorytus at his best. There was much to like about the way

ton, whose stable companion, L'Emigrant, won the French 2,000 Guineas at Longchamp last Sunday. Apparently Alverton went better than the Prix Morny winner Deep Roots at Chantilly earlier this week.

Backing horses trained by Vincent O'Brien to win our 2,000 Guineas has been an expensive pastime since the halcyon days of Sir Joand Nijinsky. In the last 12 years first Minstrel, then Roberto, Apache, The Minister, Try My Best, Night Alert and Achieved have all let the side down and that is forgetting the likes of Storm Bird and Montevideo who, like Danzante, never even made the race.

However, far from being

disappointed at not being on Deizmore this afternoon Pat Eddery is positively looking forward to his ride on the stable's deputy, Lomond, who won the Gladness Stakes over seven furlongs on the Curragh earlier this month. Lomond could be the best each-way bet in the race because he has continued to go well at Ballydoyle in the meantime.

Muscataine, Spanish Place, Gunes de Navarone and Tolomeo are the four who dominated the finish of the Craven Stakes run over today's course and distance 19 days ago. In my opinion that form did not look up to classic standard.

No matter how Diesis performs in the Guineas, Decil and Piggott still expect to win the Philip Corrines Nickel Precocious Stakes with Wassi.

Spanish produced Electric with a perfectly timed run on the outside.

Staying on just the stronger, Electric was beaten by Anyadas a length away, third. Simply Great was beaten two furlongs from home.

Michael Stoute deserves every credit for his handling of the stable and that he has done so well is only the minor trouble in his back that has caused the Blakeney colt's disappointing efforts. Time Charter is a brilliant filly who has not yet come to her best, but Electric, too, is capable of improvement and their next meeting in the Coronation Cup will be a good one.

Time Charter had stayed before last year's Royal Ascot and that meant the race and the trainer must have been delighted by her performance. Electric was bred by Bob McCreevy and is owned in partnership by the former President of the Thoroughbred Breeders Association and Raymond Clifford.

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Saturday

Television and radio programmes
Edited by Peter Davolle

Sunday

BBC 1

TV-am

6.25 Open University (until 8.25): *Peak Experience*: 6.50 Drunken: 7.15 Residential Placement: 7.40 *Year with Three Children*: 8.05 *Promised Land*: 8.20 *Statistics*.
8.55 *Loon Emote Unlimited Blonde*: 9.15 *Get Set*: with The Fix, and *The Young Magician* (winner of Magic Circle award).
11.05 *Fitbit Keep Fit* (1987) George Formby in a department store comedy with Kay Walsh and Guy Middleton.

12.30 *Grandstand*: The line-up is: 12.30 *Football Focus*: 1.00 *Boxing* (we see a team called A Night Out in the Right): 1.15 *Snooker* (Embassy Championship semi-finals); 2.00 *Hickstead Show Jumping*, the Kerrygold International).

2.30 *Snooker/Show Jumping* (further coverage from Sherman and Hickstead) and *Ice Hockey* (World Championship, from Munich); 3.45 *Big Game scores*.

3.50 *Rugby League*: First semi-final of the St Helens League Premiership Trophy: 4.30 *Snooker*: further coverage of the Embassy Championship; 4.45 *Final scores*.

5.10 *Mickey and Donald*: cartoons from the Disney studios.

5.30 *News*: 5.40 *Sports round-up*.
5.45 *The Dukes of Hazzard*: Rosco and Cletus go on strike over pay and Boss Duke to replace them with two crooks.

6.35 *Pop Quiz*: Simon Kirke and Joie Holland captain the teams composed of Hazel O'Connor, George Michael, Bill Bruford and Busters Bloodbessel.

7.05 *Film*: *North Sea Hijack* (1979) Hijackers seize an oil rig and demand £25m ransom or they will blow it up. With Roger Moore, James Mason, Anthony Perkins. Director: Andrew V McLaglen.

8.45 *The Val Doonican Music Show*: new series opens. With Nana Mouskouri, Chas and Dave, and Sky. Also viewers' request spot.

8.30 *News*. And sports round-up.

9.45 *Dynasty*: Blakie is thrilled to find himself a grandfather; Claude agrees to steal some secret papers; and Alexa and Kristie come to blows.

10.35 *Wogan*: A selection of interviews from past editions of Terry Wogan's much-admired chat shows with such celebrities as Sir Gerald Evans, Peter Ustinov, Pam Ayres, Ronnie Barker, Cilla Black, Les Dawson, Diana Rigg, Arthur Marshall and Freddie Starr.

11.25 *Film*: *Shaft* (1971) Tough tale of a black private eye (Richard Roundtree, in the title role) who is engaged to find the kidnapped daughter of a Harlem mobster. The police meanwhile have asked Shaft to investigate the mobster's activities. With Moses Gunn and Charles Cioff. Directed by Gordon Parks.

1.00 *Weather forecast*.

ITV/LONDON

8.00 *Breakfast*. Followed at 7.00 by *Good Morning Britain*, presented by the two. *Parlors*: items include news at 6.00, 6.30, 7.00, 8.00 and 8.30; Sport at 6.30 and 7.15 (or shortly thereafter), the scrolling *Big Coddle* at 7.45. Interview with Michael Angel and the King Singers, at 8.07, arioso at 8.22 and *Data Run*, for the youngsters, at 8.40. With Magnus Pyke; 9.15.

9.30 *Sesame Street*: with The Muppets; 10.30 *The Saturday Shows*: includes *The Talented Teacher* of the Year contest. Plus highlights from previous Saturday morning editions.

12.15 *World of Sport*: The line-up is: 12.20 *Modern Rhythmic Gymnastics* from the World Cup, from Belgrade; 12.45 *On the Ball* (European Championships); 1.05 *Darts* (News of the World Championship); 1.15 *News* from ITN.

1.20 The *ITV Sit*: From Kemptown, we see the 1.30, 2.00 and 2.30 and, from Newmarket, the 1.45, 2.15 and, at 3.00, the 2.00 *Guineas* stakes.

3.10 *Darts Back to the News* of the World Championship with Eric Bristow, bidding for the only important title to have eluded him this far: 3.45 *Half-time football scores*: 4.00 *Wrestling*: three bouts from Croke Park, including a knock-out challenge re-match between Mick McMichael and Pat Paton; 4.45 *Results*. A comprehensive service.

5.05 *News* from ITN; 5.20 *Match of the Day*: Bristol v Leicester in the John Player Cup Final. Also news of the Welsh Cup Final (Swansea v Pontypridd).

5.20 *Johannes Brahms*: The great composer was born 150 years ago, and this is the first of eight programmes celebrating the event. It's a documentary portrait, filmed in Vienna and Hamburg. The music will hear Brahms' extempore, the first and third movements of the double concerto, the first piano concerto and the German Requiem. Presented by Richard Baker.

5.35 *World Snooker*: Highlights from today's play on semi-final day in the Embassy Championship (more at 11.15). *The File on Jil Hattie*: Part 2 of this three-part drama series about a West Country girl (Francesca Tomelty) married to a black American (Jon Morton) and the hostility that surrounds their lives.

5.40 *Roger Doesn't Live Here Any More*: Sad comedy series about the end of a marriage. With Jonathan Pryce and Diane Fletcher as the divorced pair (1).

5.45 *News*: with Jan Leeming. *11.15 World Snooker*: Back to School for highlights from semi-final day in the Embassy Championship. Ends at 12.40pm.

5.50 *Radio 3*: *Concert*, part 2: Schubert; 6.00 *News*; 6.30 *Arts*; 7.00 *Music from America*; 7.30 *Concert*, part 3: Schubert; 8.00 *News*; 8.30 *Arts*; 9.00 *Music from America*; 9.30 *News*; 10.00 *Arts*; 10.30 *Music from America*; 11.00 *News*; 11.30 *Arts*; 12.00 *Music from America*; 12.30 *News*.

5.55 *Weather*; 6.00 *Arts*; 6.30 *Music from America*; 7.00 *News*; 7.30 *Arts*; 8.00 *Music from America*; 8.30 *News*; 9.00 *Arts*; 9.30 *Music from America*; 10.00 *News*; 10.30 *Arts*; 11.00 *Music from America*; 11.30 *News*; 12.00 *Arts*; 12.30 *Music from America*; 1.00 *Meeting to Model*.

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Hunt on for new Roach venue

By Nicholas Timmins

The coroner for the inquest on Colin Roach, the black youth who died of shotgun wounds in the entrance to Stoke Newington police station in January, was yesterday looking for a new place to hold the inquest.

The search, in which the Lord Chancellor's office has been contacted to see if other courts may be available, came after a High Court ruling that the Greater London Council had attempted to usurp the coroner's powers by determining that he should hold the inquest at Hackney Town Hall.

Mr Justice Woolf ruled that Dr Douglas Chambers, the coroner, was perfectly entitled to decide that the inquest should be held at St Pancras Coroner's Court, rather than the larger venue in Hackney.

But the judge said that he would be happier if the hearing could be held in a larger venue, seating perhaps 100 people rather than the 50 or 60 possible at St Pancras.

Mr Raymond Kidwell, QC, for the coroner, said after the judgment that Dr Chambers had been considering finding a larger place for some time. He had, however, been given no choice by the GLC's attempt to determine that the inquest should be held at Hackney. "If there is a larger court available and he has discretion then he will consider sitting in that court."

Clerkenwell magistrates' court could hold 100 people and was under consideration.

There were fears yesterday, however, that the search could delay the inquest still further.

Mr Justice Woolf said that the inquiry would be an inquest into the death only. It was right that the jury should not be subjected to undue pressure. The problems that could occur when a large number of people were present and feelings ran high had been seen recently at the Deptford fire inquest into the death of 13 young black people.

"It is perfectly proper for the coroner not to want to run the risk of a repetition," he said.

Law Report, page 9



Transport of delight: A recently completed stained glass mural recording the history of the National Union of Railways, being cleaned yesterday at Unity House, the union's new London headquarters, which will be opened on May 3 by Mr Michael Foot. Photograph: John Manning.

600 BL staff volunteer for Maestro overtime

By Clifford Webb

Six hundred track workers at BL's Cowley assembly plant have volunteered to work overtime on Saturday and Sunday to produce urgently needed Maestros. The company lost 19,000 cars, half of them the new Maestros, during the month-long "washing up" strike which ended on Tuesday.

There was no shortage of volunteers when foremen called for men to work this weekend. Most of them lost £475 in wages because of the dispute. They will be paid time and a half on Saturday, and double time on Sunday: for two five-hour shifts - a total of £44.50 before deductions.

Mr Harold Musgrave, chairman of Austin Rover, said: "There was a tremendous response and we were over-subscribed by a large margin. This is the first time we can recall asking people to work on the assembly track during a Bank holiday weekend."

A company spokesman said: "We have got away to a good start after the strike. We are achieving 98 per cent of our production programmes and you can only do that if the workers are cooperating."

Before the stoppage, Cowley was producing 2,200 Maestros a week. Management plan to increase this to 2,750 as soon as agreement is reached on the phasing out of the six minutes-a-day washing up time and the introduction of increased bonus payments.

Heath attacks Fleet Street 'disgrace'

Continued from page 1

The statement continued: "In addition, the headlines in the *Daily Express* and other newspapers attribute to me statements which I have not made and would never consider making."

"In fact, this issue is not an issue of the Queen Mother or any other member of the Royal Family. It is the responsibility of the police under the Sessional Order, passed by the House of Commons, to maintain access for members to the House."

The *Daily Express* said last night: "We reject and resent any suggestion that the *Daily Express* or Mr John Warden behaved in any way improperly."

Churchill denies smear campaign on CND

Continued from page 1

resigned from it when he heard of allegations about the campaigning tactics of the Coalition for Peace through Security.

It was alleged that the coalition followed Mr Kent on a tour of the United States, telling newspapers and radio stations that CND was a communist front. The coalition has produced parodies of CND literature and its members have flown aircraft over CND's demonstrations trailing slogans such as "CND - Kremlin April Fool".

The newspaper of Mr Churchill's committee at one time listed Lord Cameron, a former Chief of the Defence Staff, as a member, but he has denied any connexion with it and said he did not give permission for his name to be used.

Dr Julian Lewis, a member of the Coalition for Peace through Security, said: "We do not smear CND. We point out links between CND's leadership and the World Peace Council, which is a Soviet front organization.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday replied to charges from the Archbishop of Glasgow, the Most Rev Thomas Winning, that he appeared to be smearing CND.

Mr Heseltine said: "There is no smear campaign. A clear majority of the elected members of CND's council are of the left, ranging through the Labour Party to the Communist Party. That is all anyone has said."

Letter from Transvaal

Fight for survival Afrikaner fashion

"I was speaking English just now because I understand we have the London press here," Mr Fanie Botha, the South African Minister of Manpower, said in Louis Trichardt the other night, apologizing for his temporary lapse from Afrikaans to the 400 or so Nato's 2nd Party faithful gathered in a local schoolhall.

English is not a tongue much spoken in Louis Trichardt, a one-street town of some 7,000 Europeans, 90 per cent of them Afrikaners, which huddles in the bushveld of the northern Transvaal beneath the southern slopes of the green and rolling hills of the Soutpansberg.

The place is named after one of the most famous of the Voortrekkers who in the 1830s spanned their ox-wagons and led thousands of their Boer people northward away from the Cape and British rule, in the remarkable up-country migration that has come to be known as the Great Trek.

Louis Trichardt still has a frontier air, and its people a frontier mentality. It is a town where men are men and kaffirs are still kaffirs. Only 50 miles to the north lies the Limpopo river and what, to most Afrikaners, is the irremovable outer darkness of black Africa.

The Conservative Party is skilfully exploiting the gut fear of many Afrikaners and conservative English-speaking whites in the *Platteland* constituencies of the Transvaal that the Government's scheme for giving parliamentary representation to the Indian and mixed-blood Coloured minorities will only be the first step towards a general surrender of white control.

When Afrikaners fall out

little quarter is given. Mr Botha's former party colleagues in the Conservative Party have dredged up a hoary scandal about his personal involvement in an irrigation scheme whose large debts were written off by Parliament on his recommendation as Minister of Water Affairs more than 10 years ago. The Government has accused the party of vicious character assassination.

And what do Louis Trichardt's 500 Indians make of it all? They were moved to a separate "group area" two miles outside the town in the early 1970s and their businesses followed three years ago.

They admit that, in terms of new facilities, they have done quite well out of the move, and seem quite indifferent to the election fervour down the road.

Speaking of the proposed reforms, an Indian garage-owner said: "Nothing will change until we are treated as full human beings. I wouldn't say there is opposition among Indians. Just apathy."

Michael Hornsby

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen opens the National Horseracing Museum at Newmarket, 11.30.

Solution of Puzzle No 16,111

Princess Michael of Kent visits Colt Car Ambergley Horse Show and Country Fair, Gloucester Park, Gloucestershire, 12.50.

New exhibitions

Spring exhibition by Lincolnshire

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New exhibitions

Spring exhibition by Lincolnshire

Gardens open

TOMORROW

Avon: Three gardens in Grove Road, Coombe Dingle, 4m NW of Bristol; (one charge for the three); 2 to 6; Hillside, 2 acres, fine trees and shrubs; Pennywell, 2 acres, trees and shrubs; fruillieres: plants for sale.

The Shieling, ½ acre, cottage-type garden, Cheshire; Penn, Macmillan Field Road, Alderley Edge, off B5087; Alderley Edge to Macclesfield Road; 1½ miles, 100 acres, woodland, 2 to 6; also open on Monday, Essex: Hubbard's Hall, off St Mary's Church on E edge of Old Harlow; large garden, lake with wildfowl, flowering trees; 2 to 6. Gloucestershire: Barnsley House, 4m NE of Cirencester on Burford Road, A433; trees, shrubs, rock garden, herbaceous, kitchen and herb gardens; plants for sale; 10 to 6; also open every Wed all year. Hampshire: Pennington House, Lyndhurst, SW of Lyndhurst Bay; 3 acres; 2 to 6. Oxfordshire: Troy, Ewelme, 3m NE of Wallingford, off A423 between Nettlebed and Crownhill; 2 to 6; Warwickshire: Nine Gardens, off Dosthill, (one charge for all nine); 2 to 6; Wiltshire: Bayton House, Coulton, 6m from Westbury; 15 acres, trees, rock garden, wild woodland, water garden; plants for sale; 2 to 6.

And the Land, Rockdale, Rockdale, Monks Hill, Cirencester, 3m S of Stow-on-the-Wold; 2 to 6; also open on Monday.

Twenty-first Century People: Portrait drawings and prints, Glynn Vivian Art Gallery and Museum, Alexandra Road, Swansea; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5, closed Sun; (ends tomorrow).

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